

## Address by Mr. Adam Brown

AT

### Canada Life Annual Meeting, January 9, 1919.

The President, in introducing Mr. Brown, spoke as follows:

The next resolution is one which has taken on a much more than formal aspect to all associated with the Canada Life. Our good, dear old friend, Mr. Adam Brown (applause), to whom Mr. Bruce has already referred as the "Perennial," has for sixty years, with the exception of two years when he was abroad, proposed the resolution which he is now about to propose to you, and I am sure that he will give us another of his treats in doing so.



ADAM BROWN, ESQ.

In the year the Canada Life was organized, Lord Elgin was the Governor-General of Canada. The population of Canada then was 2,378,919. It is now 8,361,000. The Post Office revenue in 1857, a few years later, was \$287,152. That year domestic letter postage was reduced from 9 pence to 3 pence per  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce to 6 pence per ounce; to United Kingdom,  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce, one and twopence; over  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce, two and fourpence. All these to-day are 3c. per ounce. In the year 1916-1917 it was \$20,902,380. In the year ending 1917 the revenue of the City of Toronto was \$4,490,093. And to show the progressive policy of the Post Office Department, there are now 3,699 rural routes, and 179,159 boxes—one of the best things that ever happened to the country; daily mail at the doors of the farmers keeps them up-to-date—the first route being from Hamilton to Ancaster, and was opened by the Chief

Post Office Superintendent, Col. George Ross, I. S. O., in October, 1909. He invited me to be present and assist by addressing the assemblage.

In the year the Canada Life was born there were only fourteen miles of railway in Canada, connecting La Prairie, opposite Montreal, with St. John and Lake Champlain, the route to New York. The rails were flat iron, laid on longitudinal sleepers and screwed down, and went at the rapid pace of ten miles an hour. I saved my pennies when a young fellow for a trip to New York, and travelled over that route. Now, instead of fourteen miles of railway we have 38,000 miles of operating railways and 9,500 miles of yard sidings besides.

I have the honour on this 72nd anniversary of the Company of submitting a resolution conveying the thanks of the shareholders and policyholders to the staff and field force for their efficient services during the past year. I give you these interesting figures in order that I may show how our grand old Company has kept