

MEETING OF LIFE MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of life managers was held on 19th and 20th inst. in this city, at which the following officials from Ontario were present: Messrs. Wm. McCabe, North American Life; J. K. Macdonald, Confederation Life; F. Sanderson, Canada Life; Robt. Junkin, Manufacturers' Life; T. Bradshaw, Imperial Life; D. Dexter, Federal Life; E. E. Reid, London Life; John Milne, Northern Life; Thos. Hilliard, Dominion Life; Lt. Col. Macdonald, Confederation Life. The questions of municipal taxation of life companies and the securing larger investment powers were considered. The investment of the funds of life assurance companies is a matter of extreme importance, their nature makes or mars a company, consequently the utmost prudence and caution should be observed in investing the funds of a life company. The officers for 1902-3 are:—President, Mr. Wm. McCabe; first vice president, Mr. David Dexter; second vice president, Mr. Thos. Hilliard; secretary-treasurer, Mr. Thos. Bradshaw; auditors, Mr. J. F. Junkin and Mr. E. W. Cox.

The Executive comprise the foregoing officers and Messrs. B. Hal Brown and David Burke.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

Banquets were the fashion during the current week. First in order came that given by the Montreal Board of Trade to the delegates from the London Chamber of Commerce, on Tuesday evening, at which many of Montreal's prominent citizens and two Cabinet Ministers were present. This banquet was quite a success. Then the banquet tendered by the militia of Montreal to Lord Dundonald, which took place on Wednesday evening, was a very successful affair. It is evident that Lord Dundonald is a prime favourite in military circles, and he seems to have won the esteem of all those with whom he has come in contact. Last, but not least, comes the Montreal Insurance Institute dinner, which, although it was held on the same evening as the military dinner, was an unqualified success. Not only were prominent insurance representatives present from England and Toronto, but there were also two Cabinet Ministers, senators, members of Parliament, lawyers and others. The dinner, from start to finish, was a most enjoyable affair, and Mr. Hal Brown and those who had the matter in hand are to be congratulated. The attendance was large, about 175 covers being laid.

His Excellency the Governor-General, Her Excellency Lady Minto, with their several suites, have become citizens of Montreal, *pro. tem.*, until near the Christmas holidays. Their Excellencies have received a cordial welcome personally, and been paid all the honours due to their exalted official position.

Though forbidden by etiquette to pay visits to private houses in the city, they will entertain most hospitably at Lord Strathcona's residence which they are occupying.

It would be appreciated if our Mayor and civic rulers would take advantage of the visit of the Governor-General and Lady Minto to Montreal to hold a public reception in the City Hall, and give the citizens an opportunity of paying their respects to the representatives of royalty.

The banquet given by the Board of Trade on 18th inst. to the delegates from the London Chamber of Commerce was a memorable function. The English guests were: Sir Albert Rollit, M.P., Sir Vincent Barrington, Lieutenant-General Laurie, Messrs. H. C. Richards, K.C., M.P., James Dixon, W. W. Wood, Arthur Sorona, F. F. Begg, John Hume, J. Y. Henderson, Kenric B. Murray, all of whom occupy eminent positions in Great Britain. The Dominion Cabinet was represented by the Hon. Sydney Fisher, Hon. Clifford Sifton, Hon. W. Paterson, Hon. M. E. Bernier, Hon. Jas. Sutherland. Other guests were: Lord Dundonald, the Hon. S. N. Parent, premier Quebec, Hon. J. J. Ed. Guerin, Hon. Lomer Gouin, His Worship the Mayor, Chas. M. Hays, vice-president Grand Trunk Railway, Hon. Robert Mackay, chairman Harbour Commissioners, D. Gallery, M.P., Joseph Brunet, M.P., J. I. Tarte, M.P., F. D. Monk, M.P., Henry T. Bovey, C.E., D.C.L., F.R.S.

Lord Dundonald urged a more liberal policy towards the militia; he trusted that all those present who had the power would assist as far as they could, in seeing that those necessary elements to success in war time were provided for and anticipated in time of peace. He pleaded for more consideration being given to returned soldiers who had lost employment by going to serve their King and country in South Africa, and advocated the transfer of British reservists to Canada, where, "under a properly organized system, they would be invaluable colonists, and their training and skill as soldiers, if enlisted in our militia, would be of enormous advantage to our forces."

Mr. James Dixon in replying to the toast, "The Guests, the representatives from the London Chamber of Commerce," speaking of the St. Lawrence route said: "The way to get insurance premiums down was to remedy any weak spots on the route. Mr. Sorona hoped that the Imperial Government would give material aid to the fast Atlantic service." Mr. W. W. Wood had learnt that "in intercourse with the