

THE LAW UNION & ROCK'S REPORT.

The results of a policy of persistent cultivation of desirable risks are seen in the statement for 1915 of the Law Union and Rock Insurance Company, Limited. For the fourth year in succession, this Company reports in its fire department a loss ratio below 50 per cent. of the premiums. A sensible reduction in the expense ratio is also recorded. These results would indicate that the Company's preceding conservatism of policy has eventuated in a minimum of disturbance to its business at this time. They serve also again to emphasize the inherent strength of this and other great British insurance institutions, and the security of the foundations upon which they have reared their business—a point that has been strikingly demonstrated by the whole sequence of financial events since war broke out.

FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FAVORABLE YEAR.

Fire premiums, after deduction of reinsurances, amounted to \$1,425,215, showing the substantial increase of practically \$200,000 upon those of 1914. Losses were \$691,685, compared with \$585,299 in 1914, and giving the satisfactory ratio to the premium income of 48.5 per cent.—an increase of only one per cent. in comparison with the ratio of 1914. Expenses, including commission and contributions to fire brigades, were \$500,595, equal to 35.1 per cent. of the premium income, as compared with 38.3 per cent. in 1914—a marked improvement. After the adjustment of the unexpired risk reserve at 40 per cent. of the premiums, which with the general fire reserve maintained at \$1,000,000, makes the total fire funds \$1,570,090, equal to 110 per cent. of the year's premiums, there is carried to profit and loss from this account as a result of the year's operations an amount of \$216,045.

The accumulations of the Company have now placed it in a position of very great strength. In addition to the fire funds of \$1,570,090, there is a general reserve, being the balance on the profit and loss account, of \$1,322,325, so that the total security for fire policyholders apart from paid-up capital, amounts to \$2,892,415, equal to 203 per cent. of the premium income of last year. The total assets of the Company amount to over \$49,000,000: Such a position is unexceptionable.

OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

In other departments, also, the Law Union & Rock last year achieved again quite favorable results. The conservatism of management which marks the fire business is seen also in these departments. Last year's premium income of the Employers' Liability department amounted to \$164,280, a slight decrease on 1914, outgoings being \$124,740, about \$3,000 in advance of 1914. Accident business produced an income of \$80,940, claims, commissions, expenses and bonus to policyholders absorbing \$70,580. As in the case of the fire department, these minor activities of the Law Union & Rock have, of course, the advantage of the security afforded by the Company's accumulated profit and loss balance.

THE LAW UNION AND ROCK IN CANADA.

The Law Union & Rock commenced business in Canada in 1899, and has achieved a position commensurate with its prestige. Last year Cana-

dian fire premiums totalled \$259,011, losses incurred being \$152,363. Net premiums in the Accident and Liability departments in Canada last year totalled over \$55,000. The Law Union and Rock, which is under the Canadian management of Mr. J. E. E. Dickson, has large Canadian investment interests, its total investments in Canada being over \$12,000,000.

AN EXAMPLE OF CIVIC WISDOM.

Influenced by a nominal saving of \$10,000 in premiums on a three years' covering, the City of Winnipeg, in 1914, Canadian Finance mentions, placed its insurance in fourteen non-board companies. Six of the fourteen were the following "lame ducks"—all now out of business:—the Canadian Phenix, the Rimouski, the Midland (a Manitoba provincial concern), the Central Canada of Brandon, the Montreal-Canada and the Anglo-American. The levies of these six companies in the city's schedule aggregated \$430,000.

The city fathers doubtless prided themselves upon their business acumen in 1914; what do they think now?

A Missouri judge, in deciding a case against an insurance company, said that the contention of the company "is not the law nor never will be, as long as the immaculate flower of justice continues to bloom in the human heart!" The judge must have been lunching well.

The Standard Bank of CANADA

QUARTERLY DIVIDEND NOTICE No. 102

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of THIRTEEN per cent. per annum upon the Capital Stock of this Bank has this day been declared for the quarter ending 29th April, 1916, and that the same will be payable at the Head Office in this City, and at its branches on and after Monday, the 1st day of May, 1916, to Shareholders of record of 21st April, 1916.

By Order of the Board,

GEO. P. SCHOLFIELD,
General Manager.

Toronto, March 28th, 1916.