

since Antigonish and New Glasgow are so much nearer, and Halifax itself is scarcely farther away? Here are the first sentences of the telegram: "Experts at the Seal Harbor gold belt, at Goldboro, Guysboro County, Nova Scotia, which was discovered last fall, estimate the value of the property at between forty and fifty millions dollars. They say it is the richest find in Nova Scotia, if not on the continent of America. Leads show magnificent sights for every foot of them. An almost incessant search was being made for this belt for upwards of thirty years before it was discovered in September last, when Percy White made the discovery." Then the names of the members of the company which owns this wonderful property are given, most of them belonging to Glace Bay; a mayor, a bank manager, a barrister, a coal engineer, an auditor, and a doctor being named. Further on we discover that these gentlemen mainly compose the Beaver Hat Gold Mining Co., of Glace Bay, C.B., and this in a measure explains why this splendid telegram emanates from Sydney rather than from some place nearer the "find." May they all make fortunes out of it. But why should these respectable men make so free with tens of millions as this telegram does; or has somebody used their names to "fake" a despatch?



AREAS OF CANADIAN CITIES.

A subscriber in the Province of Quebec writes us as follows on 3rd May: "You published between two and four years ago a short article giving the areas of the different cities of Canada, commencing with Winnipeg and ending with Moncton, and I enclose the clipping in a rather dilapidated form, for I have carried it in my pocket for a long time and it has interested a great many. Would be glad if you would publish it again."

The paragraph was in the main as follows: It will surprise many to know how Winnipeg, Fredericton, and Toronto loom up above the others when tried by that standard; that Montreal city plot has less than half the area of that of Winnipeg seems strange indeed. And the figures of acreage of the former city include Maisonneuve and Hochelaga. Here is the list. Halifax does not find place in it, but we should think it will rank about with Hamilton or London in area:

	Acres.
Winnipeg	12,750
Toronto	10,797
Fredericton	10,790
St. John	9,169
Montreal	5,772
Vancouver	5,091
London	4,378
Hamilton	3,990
Ottawa	3,365
Brantford	2,977
Charlottetown	2,400
Kingston	2,177
Quebec	1,921
Victoria	1,874
Moncton	1,650



CHIMNEY FIRES.

The Fire Marshal for the State of Ohio gives some useful pointers for the extinguishing of a chimney blaze. Soot, being an aggregation of fine particles of pure charcoal, burns, as he says, with an intense heat. When accumulations of it in a chimney ignite, the strong current of air rushing in from below, to supply the oxygen necessary to unite with the carbon to form carbonic acid gas, makes a draft strong enough to carry the burning material out through the chimney-top and disperse its glowing particles over the roof. For the extinguishing of soot fires nothing which is usually obtainable is so effective as common salt, which produces hydrochloric acid gas, a non-supporter of combustion. Many of us have seen its efficiency tested during the burning out of the ample mud and stick chimney of the old home. If sulphur is obtainable, it, rather than salt, should

be used, for the burning of sulphur produces sulphurous oxide which extinguishes fire by greedily taking up all the oxygen in the chimney. A fire may be extinguished in this way even after it has extended to the woodwork of the building. The firing of a pistol up the chimney will bring down the burning soot extinguishing it.



LIFE ASSURANCE MATTERS.

A word of encouragement is a tonic that urges men to do better work, says Sunshine. Whereas a word of discouragement is apt to quench the fire of ambition.

An English exchange informs us that the directors of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, of England, have received with great regret the resignation, owing to ill-health, of Mr. H. W. Manly, F.I.A., as actuary and secretary of the society.

During the month of March, 1905, the experts of the Fidelity and Casualty Company inspected 2,867 boilers internally and 6,748 externally. During the same period 2,754 elevators were tested.

Following the resignation of Mr. James A. Turnbull, as secretary of the Connecticut General Life, Mr. George C. Bulkley, actuary of the company for several years past, was elected his successor, retaining the actuaryship as well.

Three companies, the United States Fidelity and Guaranty, Illinois Surety and the Title Guaranty and Trust, joined in issuing the \$1,000,000 bond of indemnity to the guarantors of the city treasurer of Chicago.—Chronicle.

We are informed that Mr. C. T. Gillespie, general manager for Canada of the Provident Savings Life, who was in Vancouver last week, has appointed Mr. T. A. Cross, of Victoria, manager of that company for British Columbia, with headquarters in Vancouver; and has also appointed Messrs. Seymour, Marshall & Co., of Vancouver, as city agents. The Provident Savings have leased and fitted up a branch office at 557 Granville St., Vancouver.

"I took out an accident policy the other day," said the melancholy man, brightening up, "and if I never make a claim I shall still have got my money's worth. Till now there has been no one in the world who cared a penny whether I died a clean death or finished up in a fragmentary way at the foot of a precipice; but, since I have been insured, every word and look of the secretary of my accident company shows a tender regard for my safety which is very refreshing to a lonely man. It is quite worth the premium! I strongly advise you to try it yourself—and, if you don't mind, you might send in your proposal through me."—African Insurance Gazette.



FIRE INSURANCE MATTERS.

Peterborough ratepayers have turned down the by-law to raise \$25,000 to erect a new fire hall, provide extra equipment, including a chemical engine, steam engine, telegraph alarm system and additional hose.

The Sun Life Assurance Company, of Canada, has executed a trust deed, appointing the Fidelity Trust Company, of Newark, N.J., one of their trustees and depositories in the United States, and has made a deposit, amounting to \$500,000, in first-class interest bearing bonds, to protect and secure all policyholders of the company in the United States. With an equal amount deposited with the Insurance Department of the State of Michigan, the company now has in the hands of trustees in that country \$1,000,000, and will increase it shortly.

An inspection of the business section of Detroit, made by a committee of field men during April, covered 107 blocks and revealed some very serious fire hazards. Those most frequently reported were ashes in wooden receptacles, accumulations of dirt and rubbish, open stove pipe holes in chimneys, carelessness in the use of inflammables, and defective electric wiring. These characterize many places besides Detroit, and should be sought out.

Electrical fires are not decreasing in the United States according to the quarterly report of the electrical bureau of the National Board. It shows 134 electrical fires with a loss of \$855,000 during the first quarter of 1905. Losses are reported of \$1,482,000 in 193 other fires