

RETROSPECT OF THE YEAR 1903.

Insurance Changes and Incidents—Principal Fires in Canada—Correspondents—Insurance Institute Proceedings—Banking Events, dividends, new capital, reserve funds, comparison with 1902; Imperial, Financial and General Topics—Loan Company Changes—City Events.

INSURANCE CHANGES AND INCIDENTS.

The Railway Passengers' Association, of England, received power to enter Canada, with Mr. F. H. Russell as manager.

Messrs. Cawthra & Cawthra, appointed city agents, Toronto, Guardian Assurance Company, Mr. Armstrong retaining office of general agent.

Mr. T. L. Morrissey, Montreal, Union Assurance Society, entertained a distinguished company of guests to dinner at Winnipeg.

Mr. H. J. Murphy, appointed general agent, at Quebec, of Canada Casualty and Boiler Insurance Co.

Mr. Christmas, Montreal, manager Aetna Life, received a handsome present from the staff, on the offices being transferred to the Guardian building.

The Imperial Law, Union & Crown, and other companies entered upon offices in the very handsome new building of the Liverpool & London & Globe. The Liverpool & London & Globe took possession of the noble structure it had erected at corner of St. James St. and Place D'Armes, its offices in which are most commodious, well lighted, fitted with all modern equipments and artistically embellished.

The Guardian Assurance Company and its tenants took possession of the magnificent building erected by the Company, on St. James St.

THE CHRONICLE offices were removed to much more commodious ones in the Guardian building, where the valuable collection of works on insurance, finance, etc., are collected in one room forming a library, which is unique of its kind. In this room there are about one hundred daily and weekly newspapers and magazines always open for visitors.

The Accident Underwriters held a Conference in July, at Round Island, one of the Thousand Islands.

Mr. Percy C. H. Papps, appointed Actuary of the Manufacturers' Life.

Mr. W. A. Bain, Manufacturers' Life, passed 1st examination of the Institute of Actuaries, Great Britain.

A deputation of the life managers were successful in preventing the passage of legislation, by the Quebec Legislature, for taxing life assurance companies.

The Home celebrated its centennial at New York, on 13th April.

The "three giants," New York Life, Mutual, of New York, and Equitable, issue a joint declaration

against internecine war being carried on amongst life companies.

The North British and Mercantile absorbed the Universal Life.

Mr. Dobbin, appointed manager of the London & Lancashire Fire.

The Lumberman's Fire Insurance Co., Ottawa, incorporated.

Mr. W. J. Buchanan, appointed Chairman of the local Board of the Liverpool & London & Globe, of which he has been a director for over eighteen years.

Mr. J. G. Thompson appointed to succeed Mr. G. F. C. Smith, as resident secretary of the Liverpool & London & Globe, which took effect on 2nd inst.

The Maryland Casualty Co. appointed Messrs. H. A. Stewart & Co. general agents, for Province of Quebec.

The City of Quebec Life Agents dined together on 19th January, and had a highly enjoyable time.

The Mount Royal Fire Insurance Company received a Provincial charter.

The Canada Life enters the North of England, a fruitful field.

The members of the Royal staff, on 17th Feb., were given a drive and dinner by their chief, the hospitable and generous-hearted manager, Mr. George Simpson, whose consideration and gallantry were shown by the wives of the staff being invited to the dinner.

The city agents of the Royal, on 5th March, entertained Mr. George Simpson to dinner.

The Royal and Queen gave a banquet at Quebec in October, to the managers on this continent.

The Commercial Union, London, England, insured the river vessels of the London County Council.

The Berlin Mutual Fire Insurance Co. changed its title to Metropolitan Fire Insurance Co., and the head office was removed from Berlin to Toronto.

A delegation from the City Council met the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association in October, to discuss the advance in rates which the former consider ought to be revoked, as they allege that the fire protection of the city is what the underwriters require. This was shown to be quite erroneous, and the aldermen were informed as to what improvements were needed to satisfy the underwriters.

Lt.-Governor Clark, Ontario, joined the Board of the Royal-Victoria.