

DOMINION IRON AND STEEL CO., AND DOMINION COAL CO.

After prolonged negotiations an agreement has been arrived at between the Dominion Iron & Steel Company and the Dominion Coal Company, respecting the terms under which their interests are to be separated, chiefly respecting the surrender of the Coal Company's lease.

The agreement is stated to be that the Coal Company is to pay to the Iron & Steel Company \$2,635,000, is to assume the current liabilities for wages, supplies, etc., of the coal department of the Steel Company's business, and is to receive the benefit of the cash assets of the business, consisting of accounts receivable, coal on hand and in transit stores. It is estimated that the net amount the net value of these assets would be about \$1,500,000, so that the Coal Company, under this agreement, will pay \$1,100,000 to the Iron & Steel Co., for the surrender of the lease and revision of the contract for supply of coal. By the management above outlined the Iron & Steel Co. secures the release of the capital it had engaged in the Coal Company and the obligations it had undertaken in connection therewith. As these are stated to amount to \$2,635,000 the company will have a supply of capital for completing its works at Sydney and making extensions, from which advantages the best results are anticipated.

A new contract for a supply of coal has been arranged which is reported to be mutually satisfactory.

So much is involved in the Sydney iron and steel enterprise, both of capital and the future of these industries of this class in Canada, that universal satisfaction will be expressed at the new conditions being the prelude to an era of prosperity.

THREE LOAN COMPANIES AMALGAMATE.

The Southern Loan & Savings Co., Southwestern Farmers' & Mechanics Savings & Loan Co., and the Star Loan Company of St. Thomas, Ontario, have adopted an agreement to amalgamate, under the management of Mr. J. W. Stewart, now manager of the Southern. When the agreement has been approved by Mr. Howard Hunter, Registrar of Loan Corporations for Ontario, it will be submitted to the shareholders for ratification. The company stood respectively as follows at date of last report for 1902:

Companies.	Capital paid up.	Deposits.	Debitures.	Loans.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Southern.....	400,000	302,415	340,700	1,114,979
South Western....	193,800	178,691	278,900	666,285
Star.....	253,817	297,937	11,300	549,296
	847,617	779,046	630,900	2,330,560

Each company increased its deposits and loans in 1901-2, and their debentures, which are all issued in Canada, were increased from \$427,250 to \$630,900, so it is evident that public confidence had been well maintained.

The aggregate of the reserve and contingent funds of the three companies amounts to \$121,300.

This amalgamation is a wise step, for, although the management expenses of each company are shown in the report to have erred on the side of economy rather than otherwise, yet their aggregate was heavier than is desirable in proportion to the active business transacted. We trust the new organization will have a prosperous career.

There is an opening for other loan companies to join their forces.

ON THE GROWTH IN CANADA OF LIFE INSURANCE, ASSESSMENT INSURANCE, FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, ACCIDENT INSURANCE, EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE, HEALTH INSURANCE, PURE ENDOWMENT BUSINESS, ANNUITY BUSINESS, OLD AGE PENSIONS, WORKMEN'S PENSIONS, AND OTHER OPERATIONS REQUIRING ACTUARIAL ADVICE.

BY

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PART I.

(4) ANNUITIES AND PURE ENDOWMENTS.

Life annuities are dealt in only to a very limited extent by the people of Canada, and they have never been undertaken by the Dominion government or by the governments of any of the Provinces.

At the end of 1902 there were only 459 life annuities in force in Canada, out of a population of over 5,000,000, and several of the larger of these annuities have arisen from the granting of pensions to retired officers of companies. Excluding the annuities issued by Canadian companies in foreign countries, the following gives the number of annuities and the amounts payable annually at end of 1902.

Life annuities in force in Canada, December 31, 1902:

	No.	Amount payable per annum.
Canadian Companies	317	\$ 91,615.27
British Companies... .. .	19	16,418.77
American Companies	123	48,335.81
Total	459	\$156,369.85

Including all the annuities of Canadian companies and the annuities in Canada of British and American companies, the following table shows the amount of payments to annuitants during the respective years 1892-1902, and the table also shows that whatever growth there has been in the way of annuities in Canada, has been of recent years.

TABLE V.

Amounts paid to annuitants, 1892-1902.

Year.	Canadian Companies.	British Companies.	American Companies.	Total.
1892	\$ 33,959	\$ 5,737	\$12,973	\$ 52,669
1893	35,328	5,099	14,960	55,387
1894	38,895	6,002	16,695	61,648
1895	14,219	6,667	19,643	40,529
1896	19,960	7,245	20,388	47,593
1897	32,217	9,919	22,905	65,041
1898	49,612	12,095	27,231	88,938
1899	61,776	13,144	29,798	104,718
1900	98,005	14,160	34,111	146,276
1901	110,101	16,499	35,212	161,812
1902	134,608	16,150	43,785	194,543