

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING FIRES ALREADY REPORTED.

Brockville, Ont.—November 27—Engine-house of the Grand Trunk Railway system damaged. Estimated loss on building, \$5,800; on contents, \$850.

Chamoux, B.C.—October 28—Dwelling of J. S. Washtok. Loss on building, \$3,200; on contents, \$3,500. Cause, overheated chimney. Insurance on building \$2,300, on contents \$3,000, Palatine Insurance Company, Limited.

Glen Valley, B.C.—September 23—Dwelling of Thos. Sullivan. Loss on building, \$475; on contents, \$350. Cause, overheated stovepipe. Insurance on building, Royal Insurance Company, Limited, \$500.

Huntington, B.C.—October 29—Dwelling of F. J. Chappaz, furnished but not occupied. Loss on building, \$1,200; on contents, \$300. Cause, incendiary. Insurance on building \$900, on contents \$400, Commercial Union.

Mission, B.C.—November 1—Estate of W. R. Bryant, Bellevue Hotel. Loss on building, \$1,400; on contents, \$550. Cause, cigarette stub. Insurance, Guardian Fire Insurance Company, of Utah, on building \$1,000, on contents \$500; British Crown Assurance Company, on building \$2,000, on contents \$1,000.

St. Catharines, Ont.—December 10—The fire chief reports to *The Monetary Times* the following fires for the year ended December 10th: During the year the department responded to 77 alarms of fire as follows: Regular box alarms, 32; telephone, 38; still, 7. The total value of property endangered by fire during the year was: Buildings, \$343,950; on contents of buildings, \$274,750; insurance on contents \$228,500; insurance on buildings, \$164,800; loss on buildings, \$11,479; loss on contents, \$16,411; loss on contents on which no insurance was held, \$400; loss on buildings on which no insurance was held, \$1,300; loss on buildings with no insurance, \$900; loss on contents with no insurance, \$200. Cause of fires: Hot ashes 1, spark from stove 2, high tension wire 1, defective chimney 3, gas stove 3, unknown 33, lime stacking 1, hanging cloths over electric light lamp 1, explosion in stove 1, soot in fireplace which had been boarded up and papered over 1, boys with match 1, lamp explosion 1, lightning 2, chimney fires 4, drying clothes by stove 1, match dropped on clothes basket after lighting gas stove 1, looking for clothes with match 1, cigar stub 1, electric heater 1, electric iron 1, gas flaring over kettle, setting fire to lard 1, grass fires 4, smoking 2. Three calls were for fires outside of the city limits, one at Orchard Park and two on Carlton Street. The department used during the year 15,350 feet of hose, 570 feet of ladders, 93 gallons of chemicals, and worked on fires 37 hours.

Toronto, Ont.—December 6—Part of Polson's Iron Works destroyed. Estimated loss, \$70,000. The insurance amounts to \$223,000, in addition to the \$14,000 which was carried on the two aeroplanes destroyed. Some loss was occasioned through the destruction of hulls in the course of construction, which was practically covered by marine insurance. The insurance is distributed among forty-one companies as follows, and is payable pro rata, except as to the aeroplanes, which were specifically insured: Insurance Company of North America, \$10,000; Palatine, \$10,000; Royal, \$10,000; Generale of Paris, \$5,000; North-West, \$10,000; Providence and Washington, \$10,000; British and Canadian, \$10,000; Montreal Underwriters, \$5,000; Northern, \$10,000; Scottish Union and National, \$5,000; Sun, \$10,000; Minnesota Underwriters, \$5,000; State of Pennsylvania, \$8,000; Globe and Rutgers, \$2,500; Western, \$7,500; Hartford, \$5,000; Royal Exchange, \$5,000; National Union, \$5,000; London Guarantee and Accident, \$5,000; Caledonian, \$5,000; Glens Galls, \$5,000; Canadian, \$5,000; Rochester Underwriters, \$2,500; Phoenix of Paris, \$2,500; Royal, \$5,000; British-America, \$5,000; Employers' Liability, \$5,000; Canada National, \$5,000; Mount Royal, \$10,000; Dominion, \$10,000; Northwestern National, \$10,000; National Ben Franklin, \$5,000; National of Paris, \$3,500; Perth, \$2,500; Wellington, \$2,000; Monarch, \$2,000; total, \$223,000. Aeroplanes—Century, \$2,000; Pacific Coast, \$2,000; British Dominions, \$5,000; British Empire, \$5,000; total, \$14,000.

Vancouver, B.C.—Jas. S. Rankin, adjuster, reports the following fire losses to *The Monetary Times*:—

Vancouver, B.C.—September 18—Dwelling of Mabel G. Houlgate. Loss on contents, \$25. Cause, alcohol lamp upset. Insurance, Guardian, \$1,500; Canada National, \$1,500.

October 5—Dwelling of John LeMoyne. Loss on building, \$125. Cause, wood-box too near kitchen stove. Insurance, Commercial Union, \$3,500; Queen, \$2,000; Law Union and Rock, \$1,500.

November 8—Chinese laundry and apartments of C. T. Lam and David Bun. Loss on building, \$150. Cause, overheated chimney. Insurance, General Fire Insurance Company of Paris, \$2,500.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Calendars, 1918.—North American Life Assurance Company, Toronto; Mutual Life Assurance of Canada, Waterloo, Ontario.

Banking.—The Home Bank Monthly, December, 1917. An attractive little publication issued from the head office of the Home Bank of Canada, Toronto.

Insurance.—The Life Underwriters' Magazine, issued by the Life Underwriters' Association of Canada, of which Mr. J. T. Wilson is president, deals with the opinions of five hundred men who attended the Winnipeg Convention of the Association, besides some very valuable information and advice on life insurance.

CANADIAN INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

The removal of any uncertainty as to the continued financing of orders for munitions from our allies, and from the British government, by the unexpectedly large response to the Victory Loan appeal, cannot fail to establish confidence in the industrial outlook, says the monthly letter of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. In all classes of industry there appears to be an abundance of orders, a condition which will continue for some time. The extension of the output is still limited by lack of labor and material, but there appears to be a substantial gain in volume. The home demand is being met by domestic products to a greater extent than formerly.

The Postal Census of Manufacturers in 1915, a summary of which was made public earlier in the year, has just been issued and shows that the increase in the value of manufactured products between 1905 and 1915 was 18.58 per cent., or from \$1,165,000,000 to \$1,381,000,000. In the earlier part of 1915, however, there was a falling off, followed later on in the year by a decided increase in activity due to the placing of war orders. From the closing months of 1915 to the present time there has been no cessation of this activity, nor has there been any check to the advance in prices and in wages. Meanwhile many new plants have been built and existing plants extended, in order to meet the extraordinary demand, with the result that the output to-day must be very greatly in excess of that of previous years. In the fiscal year ending March last, the exports of manufactures were valued at \$477,399,676 as compared with \$85,539,501 in 1915. For the seven months ending October last, the value was \$420,380,372, or only \$50,000,000 less than for the whole of the previous twelve months.

A decided increase in the output of pig iron has taken place during the year, but the supply still falls short of the demand. For the first nine months of the current year 895,307 tons were produced, as against 844,717 tons last year. It is interesting to note that this year 9,983 tons were produced in electric furnaces. The total production of steel ingots and direct castings during the first nine months of the year was 1,265,183 tons, as against 911,054 tons last year. The steel produced in electric furnaces during the same period was 30,960 tons, as compared with 19,639 tons during the whole of 1916. By September the production of the electric furnaces had risen to 5,000 tons per month, or at the rate of 60,000 tons per annum. The war demands, to which this increase is due, show no signs of diminishing, and are given precedence over commercial demands, which are also steadily becoming more pressing.

In the lumbering business there is not much activity, although in several districts efforts are being made to get out as much lumber as the unusual conditions will permit. On the Atlantic seaboard there is a good demand from the United States, which is expected to increase. There must also, sooner or later, be a heavy demand from Europe, which market is at present cut off because of the lack of available tonnage. There is also a dearth of railway cars for transporting lumber, which has proved a serious interruption to business.