

tary twenty days' notice of their intention to come forward for examination.

8. The examinations may be conducted in writing, or viva voce, or both, at the discretion of the examiners. With the exception of such books as the examiners may think proper to supply, no means of information will be allowed.

UNDERWRITERS AND THE PUBLIC.

Efforts to Acquaint the Latter with Insurance Problems.

The New York "Journal of Commerce," says: F. C. Moore, E. C. Irwin, President of the National Board of Fire Underwriters; Henry H. Hall, J. H. Washburn, President of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange, and James Nichols, have been asked by the executive committee of the National Board of Fire Underwriters to prepare a paper on the relation of fire insurance to the community. Experienced underwriters have long felt that something should be done to acquaint the public with a better understanding of insurance problems, to the end that unwise legislation might be averted, and intelligent co-operation along the lines of sound underwriting secured. A committee, consisting of E. C. Irwin, F. C. Moore, H. F. Atwood, Robert B. Heath, and Wm. B. Clark, has also been appointed, to represent the National Board of Fire Underwriters at the sessions of the Civic Federation to be held soon in Chicago.

THE FORGERY AT MOLSON'S BANK.

"O for a day (he would exclaim) for but one day to make amends! But the sun never shone upon that happy day, and out of his remote captivity he never came."—Dickens.

The reported theft of \$3,400 by means of forged cheques upon the account of a depositor of the above bank, residing in Utah, is the latest sickening story of a bank official's downfall. The culprit is said to have enjoyed a good reputation, and to have been regarded as a faithful and efficient officer of the bank. Declining all offers of settlement, the general manager has laid information against the offender.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

The balance sheet of this institution for the half-year terminating 30th June, submitted to the proprietors on Tuesday last, exhibits the strength of the bank's resources in a remarkable degree, the cash on hand and at call exceeding nine millions of dollars, being \$750,000 more than at the close of last year. The deposits show an increase of \$265,000 and the circulation has also advanced, doubtless owing to the rapid extension of the bank's sphere of influence in the ever-growing province of British Columbia. The

net profit for the half-year amounted to nearly \$170,000 from which a generous amount was deducted for the Widows' and Orphans' and Life Insurance Funds, and \$12,500 transferred to the Bank Premises Account. As stated in our last issue, a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum has been declared, payable next month, and the balance sheet contains ample promise in the shape of increased investments and loans that 1899 will be a prosperous year for the Bank of British North America.

THE DUFFERIN MINE.

The weekly letter from the manager of the Dufferin Mine just received contains the gratifying information that a discovery which promises to be of the greatest importance to the mine, has been made at the 300-foot level. The vein which has been cut is very rich in free gold, and drifts have been run east and west, a total distance of 92 feet, and the average value of the ore exposed is about \$20.00 per ton, 50 per cent. of which is free gold.

The new machinery is nearly all installed and will be running during the month of October, but the material supplied during that month will probably be taken from the development workings, so that it will be November before a fair average clean up is made.

A rich vein has also been discovered in the East Dufferin at a depth of 74 feet, which shows gold freely throughout, and assays very high for a Nova Scotia property.

VILLE MARIE BANK NOTE CIRCULATION.

The representatives of the banks, present at yesterday's preliminary enquiry into the charges of the Dominion Finance Department against the Ville Marie officials, made the following statements regarding the amounts in that bank's bills now held by their respective institutions and awaiting redemption:

British North America.....	\$ 5,480
Canadian Bank of Commerce.....	3,052
Ottawa.....	39,355
Merchants of Canada.....	29,940
Bank of Montreal.....	155,680
Nova Scotia.....	2,170
Ontario.....	8,305
Merchants of Halifax.....	10,510
Banque Nationale.....	17,830
Toronto.....	8,950
Hochelaga.....	100,855
Quebec.....	36,600
Dominion.....	8,580
Imperial.....	925
Molsons.....	29,045
Jacques Cartier.....	5,485
Union.....	2,390
City and District.....	350
Total.....	\$457,465