

Origin of the fire unknown. The elevator property was sold to Messrs. Woodruff & Snyder for \$15,000, the transfer was to have been completed on Monday last.

Elma Township, Ont., July 20.—Barn of Mrs. Crowle, on the 8th concession, with contents; insured in the Beaver and Toronto for \$400.

Mitchell, Ont., July 23.—John Kitchen's barn, a short distance from here, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground, with contents; insured for \$250 on building.

Woodstock, July 29.—A fire took place here at half-past four this morning, which resulted in the complete destruction of John Forrest's flour and oatmeal mill. The cause of the fire is unknown. Loss amounts to about \$17,000; insured for \$2,500.

Sherbrooke, July 27.—The *Gazette* says—A large fire destroyed about \$20,000 worth of property, upon which there was an insurance of but \$900. The sufferers were Lowe & Wilson, door, sash and planing mill; loss about \$3,000; insured for \$900; S. Twose's furniture and undertaker's shop; no machinery saved; between 30,000 and 40,000 feet of lumber burned, besides a large quantity of finished and partially finished furniture. Loss about \$6,000; no insurance. Morrill & Co., machinists, lost all their patterns and some new lathes only put in the day previous. These gentlemen, who were burned out only a few weeks since, had just started their business again, in the building occupied by the Sewing Machine Co., until they could re-build. They lost about \$2,000; no insurance. The Sewing Machine Company saved considerable in the way of lathes, punches, drills, &c. Their loss will probably be about \$1,500, on which they had no insurance. The buildings were owned by the British American Land Company, and were worth probably \$1,500. The workmen in Twose's shop lost all their tools.

Hamilton, July 30.—A fire broke out in Eastwood's bookbindery; it originated in a cupboard where ruling materials were kept, and which had not been opened for several days, so that the origin of the fire is unaccountable. A small amount of damage was done by water to stationery stock and window shades in the room below. It was covered by insurance.

Arthur, Ontario, July 30.—The stables belonging to Clarke's Hotel here took fire this afternoon, and in about an hour were totally destroyed. The hotel itself was in considerable danger, but by the very energetic assistance of the villagers was saved. The fire originated from some children playing with matches in the stable. There is a small insurance, but the loss will be considerable.

Barton Township Ont., July 30.—The house of Robert Bently was consumed; cause unknown.

Whitechurch Township, Ont., July 23.—Driving shed and stables of George Playter were consumed, with contents; loss stated at \$1,000; insured for \$300.

Windham Township, July 24.—Barn of John Learmont, with contents; also the adjoining buildings; loss stated at \$2,000; insured in the Brant Mutual Ins. Co. for \$790; cause, lightning.

Wallace Township, Ont. July 29.—The barn of L. Smith, on the 3rd concession, was struck by lightning, killing a mare and colt, but did not fire the building.

Montreal Aug. 4.—The losses on Ives & Allan's foundry; dwellings, &c., were Etna's loss \$8,483; Hartford, \$350; Commercial Union, \$1,030. I understand there are several risks on furniture &c., less than \$200 each.

Fredericton, July 19.—Dibble's premises and three other houses in that vicinity were consumed by fire; it extended to the railway shed.

Fitzroy Township, Ont., July 24.—The barn and outbuildings of S. Lawson were destroyed; it spread from the woods.

WORKSON INSURANCE.—The *Bankers' Magazine* for July contains a list of one hundred and forty-two works: Marine, Fire and Life Insurance, published both in England and the United States, and the price of each work. Published monthly, at \$5 per annum, 23 Murray St., New York.

ENGLISH COMPANIES IN THE UNITED STATES.—The recent agitation respecting the Foreign Insurance bill vetoed by Governor Hoffman is producing fruitful results. The foreign companies, who desire nothing more than perfect equality, have given their assent to a bill which has been already submitted to Mr. Miller, the Superintendent, which places them on an equitable footing with American organizations. They have also, with the object of silencing all cavil, resolved to raise a fund for the purpose of sending the Superintendent of our Insurance Department to England to investigate and prepare an exhaustive report of the condition of their home offices. Mr. Miller will probably be able to fulfill this invitation after the completion of the life report, which is now nearly ready. His visit to England will be a remarkable event, and its effect upon the character and future of the companies investigated in the United States and Great Britain will be such as to exalt them in the esteem of the citizens of both hemispheres.—*Insurance Times*.

WOULDN'T INSURE.—A thin, cadaverous looking German, about fifty years of age, entered the office of a health insurance company in Philadelphia, the other day, and inquired, "Ish de man in what inshures de peoples' helts?" The agent politely answered, "I attend to that business, sir." "Vell, I vants my helts insured; vat you charge?" "Different prices," answered the agent; "from three to ten dollars a year; pay ten dollars a year and you get ten dollars a week in case of sickness." "Vell," said mynheer, "I vants ten dollars vert." The agent enquired his state of health. "Vell, I ish sick all de time. I'se shust out te bed two, tree hours a day, and te doctor, says he can't do nothing more goot for me." "If that's the state of your health," returned the agent, "we can't insure it. We only insure persons who are in good health." At this, mynheer bristled up in great anger. "You must think I'se a pig fool! Vot you think I come pay you ten dollars for inshure my helt ven I vas vel?"

Meetings.

CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Canada Life Assurance Company was held at Hamilton, Ont., in the Company's offices, on James street, on the 2nd August. The gentlemen present were:

E. C. Thomas, President; J. W. Bickle, T. Bickle, W. L. Billings, M. D., Adam Brown, F. W. Gates, T. C. Kerr, G. W. Gillespie, Thomas Swinyard, Henry McLaren, and James Osborne, Hamilton; G. A. Barber, Hon. John Hillyard Cameron, E. Bradburne, Toronto; Jas. Hamilton, M. D., Flamboro' West; Rev. G. M. Innes, London; A. Willis, J. J. Barker, Markham; J. Beaul, Woodstock; W. Cook, Galt; R. White, Montreal; T. C. Street, M. P., Niagara Falls, and others.

Sheriff Thomas occupied the chair.

Mr. A. G. Ramsay, Manager, then read the

Annual Report.

The directors have again to lay before the shareholders the accounts and statements of the past financial year, to 30th April last. During that period there were 1,271 applications for assurances of \$1,871,456. The sum of \$127,600 was declined, being upon 89 lives which appeared of a less favorable character than the directors considered it the interest of the company to accept. 1,062 policies, to the amount of \$1,584,456, yielding annual premiums to the extent of \$64,837 50 were issued, and the remainder for \$159,400 upon 120 lives, were not fully perfected. The claims of the year by deaths were under 39 policies, upon 35 lives, for the sum of \$87,977 32, of which £500 stg., being reassured by another company the amount was thereby reduced to \$85,543 99.

At the close of the year, the total assurances in force amounted to \$6,404,437 56, upon 3,842 lives, under 4,270 policies, yielding an annual premium revenue of \$203,695 71. There also continued in force three annuities for \$842 33, and a deferred annuity of \$9 50.

Comparative table showing new business in following years:

	No. New Policies.	Sums Assured.	Premiums.
Yearly average to 30th April, '67.	269	\$ 430,956	\$11,655
Transacted in year to 30th April, 1868	447	567,894	18,283
Transacted in year to 30th April '69	831	1,156,855	46,929
Transacted in year to 30th April '70	1,062	1,584,456	64,837

The company has heretofore claimed that it has taken the highest position in Canada, by transacting the largest amount of life Assurance business there. This position seemed called in question, by late Government returns, but it is believed that if the data upon which those returns are founded are carefully analyzed, it will be seen that this company still maintains its pre-eminence.

During last year it was intimated to the share and policy-holders, that it had been thought well to fortify the company in its claims for public support, by obtaining a valuation of all its obligations, by a disinterested actuary of eminence and experience, whose independent valuation would command increased approval and confidence. It was also felt that the future position of the company would be further strengthened, by such a valuation being made upon the assumption of a rate interest of 5 per cent., rather than 6 per cent., as had been hitherto done, for, although there had not yet been found any difficulty in investing the company's funds to yield the rate of 6 per cent. hitherto assumed, it was thought not impossible that first-class investments, such as the company looks for, might at a future time, be less readily obtained than in the past. The satisfactory result of such a valuation by the Hon. Elizar Wright, of Boston, whose position as the leading actuary upon the continent, pointed him out as the most fitting person for such a duty, was made known to the policy and shareholders last year, and it then gave so much confidence and satisfaction, that it was deemed well this year to consult him again on the subject. His valuation, based upon Carlisle mortality, and interest at 5 per cent., is submitted herewith.

While the difficulty of securing first-class investments at the rates of interest obtained in former years is admitted, the Directors lay claim to the exercise of anxious care in their selection of investments, preferring safety to large profits, and it may be stated, that the actual present market value of the Company's investments would largely exceed the price at which they stand in the accounts.

To further increase confidence in the Institution a committee was appointed to examine and verify the different investments, and its report, along with that of the Auditor, accompanies this.

The period having arrived for a division of the profits of the Company, it affords the Directors very great gratification to be able to draw particular attention to its success, as exhibited by the account of receipts and payments, and the statement of assets and liabilities herewith. The Directors have to announce that every item of loss upon old transactions has been wiped off. After fully providing for the paid-up capital of \$125,000, and writing off large sums on real estate and other old securities, so as to place the Institution on the strongest possible foundation, the Directors are able to congratulate persons interested in the Company that they are at the same time in a position to exhibit an amount of profit surplus, which cannot fail to give satisfaction. After providing