

LIFE INSURANCE.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found the fifth annual report of the Manufacturers' Life Insurance Company, which was submitted at Toronto on January 28. The report shows that decided improvement has been made in the position of the company during the past year, and this renders the future outlook encouraging. The amount of new business taken was \$2,111,100, and the net premium income \$181,084. The total income, less re-insurance, was \$198,141. Premium and total income show a handsome increase over the previous year, while at the same time it is gratifying to note a decrease in expenditures, including death claims. Assets are increased by \$86,219, making the total now \$437,959. An addition in paid up capital of \$127,320, makes the surplus in favor of policy holders amount to \$135,308. In addition to the paid up capital, the Manufacturers' has \$493,680 of uncalled capital subscribed for by the leading capitalists of Canada. Altogether the affairs of the company appear to have been placed in a sound and prosperous position.

The business of the company in the West has prospered during the year. About a year ago W. R. Miller was appointed manager for the west, with headquarters at Winnipeg, having charge of the territory from Rat Portage to the Pacific coast. Mr. Miller came to Winnipeg well recommended, having had a long experience in life insurance, during which he filled the position of inspector for a leading company. Previous to his taking the management here, he had made an extended trip through the west, and was therefore not unacquainted with the field. He has also visited all parts of his territory within the year. Recently the services of F. J. Dorsey, late conductor on the C.P.R., have been secured. Mr. Dorsey has given special attention to the Manufacturers' Accident Insurance Co. with good results, and a large business has been done among C.P.R. employees, and with others. E. McDonald, formerly agent of the company at Portage la Prairie, has been appointed inspector of agencies for Manitoba and the Territories.

Toronto Grocery Market.

Sugars, syrups and molasses.—Granulated is now pretty generally sold at 4½c here, which is slightly under the cost laid down. In yellows few houses have any to offer under 3½c, but these are sometimes cut to 3½c when sold with other goods. Sugars.—Granulated, 4½c; Paris lump, boxes, 5c; extra ground, bbls, 5 to 5½c; powdered, bbls, 4½ to 4¾c; refined, dark to bright, 3½ to 4½c; Demerara, 4½ to 4¾c. Syrups.—D., 2 to 2½c; M., 2½ to 2¾c; B., 2½ to 2¾c; V.B., 2½ to 2¾c; E.V.B., 2½ to 2¾c; ex-super, 2½ to 2¾c; XX, 2½ to 3c; XXX and special, 3 to 3½c. Molasses.—West Indian, bbls, 30 to 45c; New Orleans, open kettle, 45 to 55c; centrifugals, 30 to 40c; low grades, 23 to 25c.

Teas and coffees.—Demand for teas continues good on low grades, but the enquiry for the better grades is light. The city trade is running chiefly on Congous from 13 to 17c, but country dealers are taking a good many Japans at 13c up. There is a good enquiry for cheap Young Hysons, but they are scarce, with but few offered under 16c; these have come on from New York; on the prices asked by English sellers they could not be brought in to sell at that. In coffees Rios are fairly active, but other grades are quiet. Prices are:—Rios, 17 to 20c; Jamaica, 19 to 20c; Java, 25 to 30c; Mocha, 29 to 33c; Porto Rico, 25 to 28c.

Dried fruit.—Prices generally are weak.

Later importations are coming to hand, which have been bought at lower prices. Currants.—Bbls, now, 5 to 5½c; do., fancy. 6c; half bbls, 5½ to 5¾c; Vostizza, new, cases, 6½ to 9c; Patras, bbls, 6 to 6½c; half bbls, 6½c; cases, 6½ to 6¾c. Raisins: 7½c; do old, off stalk, per box, 75c;—Valencias, 1½ to 5½c; layers, 7 to 7½c; do old, off stock, per box, 75c to \$1; sultanas, 9 to 12c; London layers, \$2.25 to 2.40; black baskets, \$3.50 to 3.75; do, 4 boxes, \$1.20; blue baskets, \$4 to 4.50; finest Delicassas, \$4.75 to 5.00; do, 4 boxes \$2; muscatel, 2 cr, \$2.25; do, 1 cr, \$3. Figs.—Eldemes, 10 lbs and up, 11 to 16d; Malaga, 50 lb bags, 5 to 5½c; natural bags, 4½ to 5½c. Dates.—Hal-lowee, 5 to 5½c. Prunes.—New, cases, 6½ to 8c; casks, 5c; kegs, 5½c; old, cases 5½ to 6c. Nuts.—Almonds, Tarragona, new, 1½ to 15c. Ivica, 14 to 15c; do shelled, Valencia, 29 to 35c; filberts, Sicily, 10½ to 11c, walnuts, Grenoble, 14 to 15c.

Canned goods.—Staple vegetables are meeting with a fairly good demand at steady prices. On some of the best known brands the advance recently asked is being paid, but the general run are selling at old prices. While there is some talk of higher prices in the near future the candid opinion of jobbers is that they will remain at present figures. Fish.—Salmon, 1½ \$1.60 to 1.70; salmon, 1½ tall, \$1.35 to 1.45; lobster, Clover leaf, \$2.95; lobster, other 1½ \$2.10 to 2.30; mackerel, \$1 to 1.10; sardines, French, 1½, 40c; sardines, French, 1½, 17c; sardines, American 1½, 6 to 8c; sardines, American 1½, 9c. Fruits and Vegetables.—Tomatoes, 3's, \$1.00 to \$1.15; corn, 2's, 97½c to \$1.05; peas, 2's, \$1.05 to \$1.25; beans, 95c to \$1; pumpkins, 75c to \$1.00; strawberries and raspberries, 2's, \$2.25 to 2.40; apples, gala, \$2.25; 3's, \$1.10; peaches, 2's, \$1.90 to \$2.10; peaches 3's, \$2.75 to 3.25; plums, 2's, \$1.44 to 1.65; 3's, \$2.60; pears, 2's, \$1.90 to 2.00; 3's, \$2.90 to 3.

Rice and spices.—Rice, bags, 3½ to 4½c; do off grades, 3½ to 3¾c; do, Patna, 4½ to 5½c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; sago, 3½ to 4½c; tapioca, 4½ to 5c; pepper, black, 11½ to 12c; do, white, 18 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 30c; cloves, 10 to 15c; allspice, 10 to 12c; nutmegs, 90 to \$1.10; cream tartar, 25 to 35c.

Peels.—Demand dull, but values are firm at 16 to 18c for lemon, 16½ to 18c for orange, and 25 to 28c for citron.—*Empire*, Feb. 26.

Toronto Hardware and Paint Prices.

Jobbers are still selling horseshoes below the present lay-down price. The metal markets have been dull, with an easier tendency, especially in lead and boiler tubes.

Antimony.—Cookson's, per pound, 15 to 15½c; other makes, per pound, 14 to 14½c.

Tin.—Lamb and flag, 56 and 58-pound ingots, per pound, 23 to 23½c; Straits, 100-pound ingots, 23 to 23½c; strip, 24½ to 25c.

Cooper.—Ingot, 13 to 13½c; sheet, 16 to 18.

Lead.—Bar, 4½ to 5c; pig, 3½ to 3¾c; sheet, per roll, \$4.75 to \$5.25; shot, Can. dis., 7½ per cent.

Zinc.—Sheet, 6½ to 7c; zinc, spelter, 5½c, domestic; imported, 6c; solder, hf. and hf., 18 to 19c.

Brass.—Sheet, 21 to 28c.

Iron.—Bar, ordinary, \$2.10 to \$2.15; bar, refined, \$2.60; Swedes, 1-inch or over, \$4.00 to \$4.25; Lowmoor, 5½ to 6c; hoops, cooper's, \$2.60 to \$2.65; hoops, band, \$2.50 to \$2.60; tank plates, \$2.00 to \$2.25; boiler rivets, best, \$1.50; sheet, 10 to 20 gauge, \$2.75 to \$3.00; 22 to 24-gauge, \$2.75 to \$3.00; 26-gauge, \$3.00 to \$3.25; 28-gauge, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Russia sheet, per pound, 10 to 12c.

Galvanized iron.—16 to 24 gauge, 5 to 5½; 26-gauge, 5½ to 5¾c; 28-gauge, 5½ to 5¾c.

Iron wire.—Market bright and annealed. Nos. 1 to 16, net list from stock, 12½ per cent. discount from Montreal; for Hamilton or Toronto add 10c per 100 pounds; market tinned, per pound, 4½ to 8c; galvanized fence same discount as bright and annealed; barbed wire, 4½ to 5c;

coiled chain, ½-inch, 5½ to 5¾c; ¾-inch, 4½ to 4¾c; 1-inch, 4 1½ to 4¾c; 1½-inch, 3½ to 3¾c; 2-inch, 3 1½ to 3¾c; iron pipe, off list, 60 to 62½ per cent. discount, galvanized off list 33½ to 35 per cent. discount; boiler tubes, 2-inch, 13c, do., 3-inch, 18½c.

Steel.—Cast 13 to 14c; boiler plate, 1 inch, \$2.30; 5 16 do, \$2.25; ¾ inch, do, \$2.25; sl. gh shoe, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Nails American list, basis, \$2.50 f.o.b., 10-ronto and Hamilton, brads, mouldings and wire, 75 per cent. off the new list.

Horse nails.—Can. dis. 50 and 5 off

Horse shoes.—Per kog, \$3.00 to \$3.70.

Canada plates.—Blaine, \$2.35 to \$2.95. O aer \$2.90 to \$3.00.

Tin plates.—1C coke, \$3.55 to \$4.00; 1C charcoal, \$4.25 to \$4.75; 1X charcoal, \$5.25 to \$5.75; 1X charcoal, \$6.25 to \$6.75; 2C charcoal, \$4 to \$4.25.

Gunpowder.—Can blasting, per kog, \$2.50 to \$2.75; can sporting, FF \$5; can sporting FFF, \$5.25; can rifle, \$7.25.

Rope.—Manilla, 12½c basis; sisal, 10½c basis.

Axes, per box, \$7 to \$12.

Glass.—Fourth quality star, 1st break, \$1.40 to \$1.45; 2nd do, \$1.55; 3rd do, \$3.40; 4th do, \$3.70; 5th do, \$4.

For old material we quote dealers' paying prices as follows: No. 1 heavy scrap, 65 to 70c per 100 pounds; stove cast scrap, 40 to 45c, burnt cast scrap, 15 to 20c; No. 1 wrought iron, 60 to 65c; No. 2 including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 30c; new scrap copper, 10 to 11c; heavy scrap copper, 10½ to 10¾c; old copper bottoms, 8c; light scrap brass, 5½c; heavy yellow scrap brass, 7½c; heavy red scrap 8½ to 8¾c; scrap lead, 2c; scrap zinc, 2½ to 2¾c; scrap rubber, 2½ to 2¾c; country mixed rags, 80 to 85c per 100 pounds; clean dry bones, 50 to 60c per 100 pounds; plough shares, 60 to 65c; railroad iron, 65 to 75c; malleable scrap, 25c.

Paints and oils.—We quote on large lots only: Pure white lead ground in oil, association guarantee, 5½ to 5¾c. Prepared paints, (1-gr., 1-hlf. and 1 gal. tins,) pure per gallon, \$1.10; second qualities, per gallon, 90c. Colors in oil (25-pound tins, standard quality)—Venetian red, per pound, 5c; chrome yellow, per pound, 14c; chrome green, per pound, 8c; French imperial green, 14c. Colors, dry—Yellow ochre (J.C.), in barrels, per cwt., \$1.35 to \$1.40; Venetian red (R.C. 2), per cwt., \$1.50; English oxides in barrels, per pound, 3½c; American, in barrels, per pound, 2½c; Canadian, in barrels, 1½c; Paris green, 15c; burnt umber, per pound, 5c; chrome yellows per pound, 11 to 12c; chrome greens, per pound, 12c; Indian red, 6c for ordinary, 10c for pure; agricultural red, 10 to 22c; golden ochre, 3½ to 4c. Tube colors.—First break 80c; second break, \$1.25; third break, \$2.40. Linseed oil, in barrels—raw, per gallon, 56 to 58c; boiled, per gallon, 59 to 61c. Turpentine, in barrels—Selected packages, per gallon, 54 to 55c. Glue—Common, broken, in barrels, 10 to 11c; French medal, 11 to 12c; cabinet makers', 17 to 18c; white, 16 to 17c. Castor oil, per pound, 10 to 11c. Putty, per cwt., \$2.00. Resin, \$1.00 per cwt. Pine tar, (pint tins), \$1 per dozen.

Hua, Richardson & Co., Montreal, have obtained a settlement at 50c on the dollar.

The Dominion Government, it is said will take proceedings against grocers for selling adulterated coffee.

The Montreal Herald property, consisting of the good will and plant, exclusive of the book debts, was sold to J. Brooks Young, of the New England Paper Company, for 11,350.

The United States committee on ways and means on the bill "To place wool on the free list and to reduce the duties on woolen goods" commonly known as the free wool bill has completed its report recommending the passage of the measure and will submit it to the House.