

noticed that the accident branch of the company's business shows a very decided increase. The financial condition of the company must be regarded as very satisfactory, for with the liberal increase in the total assets, comparing this report with the directors' report one year ago, we also find a corresponding increase in the surplus to policyholders, which now amounts to \$347,619. Deducting paid-up capital, and the net surplus is \$285,119. The security to policyholders is still further increased by the uncalled capital of \$437,500. The total assets have been increased by \$412,057 and now aggregate \$2,885,571, exclusive of the uncalled capital. The following comparisons for the periods named will best show the company's progress:—

Year.	Total Income.	Total Assets.	Life Insurance in force.
1876	\$102,822.14	\$265,944.64	\$2,214,093
1880	141,402.81	473,632.93	3,881,479
1884	278,379.65	837,397.24	6,844,404
1888	525,273.58	1,436,816.21	11,931,316
1889	563,140.53	1,795,822.72	13,337,983
1890	889,078.87	2,473,514.19	16,759,356
1891	920,174.57	2,885,571.44	19,425,412

The income for 1890 was abnormally increased by the premiums belonging to the Citizens' reinsured business then turned over; therefore deducting premiums on this business for both 1890 and 1891, we have as the respective incomes \$701,073 and \$841,560, in comparison with the Sun's business of former years. It gives us pleasure to record, as we believe it will all citizens of the Dominion to note, the steady and solid progress of this purely Canadian institution, for it is a credit to Canadian enterprise, and bespeaks on the part of its president, Mr. Robertson Macaulay, a rare genius to plan and execute successfully under difficulties what many have executed less successfully under favorable circumstances. In Mr. T. B. Macaulay, the actuary and secretary, the president and directors have had an associate of invaluable mental and executive force. Men who grow with their opportunities are always valuable, and such a man the gentleman named is everywhere acknowledged to be. We hope and expect to record in the history of the company for 1892 still another stage of substantial progress.

A. DEFERRED ANNUITY PLAN WANTED.

INSURANCE AND FINANCE CHRONICLE:—

In view of the multiplicity of plans and policies now presented to the public by the various life insurance companies doing business in the United States and Canada, it might seem as though every possible desire on the part of the insurer for either protection or investment had been met, and that so bewildering is the profusion of systems already in vogue no fresh suggestion of any particular worth could be made. Nevertheless there would appear to be yet one more method of insurance required in order to provide for all contingencies.

It is the experience of every active agent that he meets with men who refuse to give him business either because they have no one besides themselves to protect, or because they will not endure the ordeal of a medical examination; or again, there are others who are denied the advantage of life insurance because they cannot pass the examination. Now, there surely ought to be some form of insurance specially designed to meet these cases. So far as we are aware, no American or Canadian company has done anything in this direction; but a plan has recently appeared in England which seems to precisely fit the case, and to possess features well worthy of the attention of our companies.

As the strain of business grows steadily greater with the approach of the end of the century, the desire of men to make some permanent provision for their old age is becoming more general, comparatively few can accomplish this by the amassing of wealth, and therefore there cannot fail to be something

highly attractive about a plan whereby the payment of a small amount annually during the years of activity well ensure the receipt of a sufficient annuity during the years of inability. No man of spirit can contemplate with composure the prospect of being a burden even to his own kin in his old age. Hence if he cannot hope to accumulate a fortune he can hardly fail to be attracted by the assurance of a competency.

The English plan referred to is so simple that there ought to be no difficulty about introducing it here. No medical examination is required from the applicant, and the policies are free from restrictions as to foreign residence and travel. In the event of death before the attainment of the age at which the annuity becomes payable the whole of the premiums paid in are returned with simple interest at the rate of two and one-half per cent. In the event of inability to pay premiums for the whole of the period agreed upon, the policy is not forfeited, but an annuity proportioned to the premium paid is granted, *i. e.*, if three-fifths have been paid three-fifths of the annuity will be allowed. It is further stipulated that in case of surrender at any time before the attainment of the "annuity age," the surrender value shall be equal to the whole of the premiums paid after the first year, together with simple interest at 2½ per cent.; and finally, at any time within six months after the attainment of the annuity age the insured may elect to receive a cash payment in lieu of the pension, and a liberal commutation value will be allowed.

For the classes of men previously indicated, and particularly those who cannot obtain ordinary life insurance, this annuity system has many attractions, and we believe that it might with advantage be adopted by some of our own companies, with such modifications as might be necessary in order to meet the inevitable differences between the ways of working and thinking in the Old World and in the New.

March, 1892.

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Financial and Statistical.

THE FEBRUARY BANK STATEMENT.

The bank statement for February follows closely in the lines of former ones which go to show continued prosperity. The variations are not many, but those which do exist carry good prospects along with them. We find a continued increase in capital and reserve funds, while bank notes have kept well in the current of trade and commerce. Deposits of the people are largely augmented, and liabilities generally show an increase under such headings as tends to make the hearts of bankers glad. Specie and Dominion notes show a fair increase, and notes and cheques between banks show that business is not at a standstill. A slight decrease has taken place in foreign balances, but that indicates payments of outstanding debts for merchandise. Loans have increased about two and a quarter millions, and overdue debts show a reduction of \$111,458. Assets altogether increased over three and a half millions. Some of the increases are due to the first appearance in the general statement of the returns of the Merchants' Bank of P. E. Island, this bank conforming with provisions laid down in the Banking Act of 1890, by which at the expiry of its Provincial charter it should come under the banking laws of the Dominion.

It is rather amusing that at a time when we were about to suspend vigilance in the matter of errors in the banking returns we should drop upon at least three or four. These we find under the heading "Greatest amount of notes in circulation at any time during the month." Under this head we find discrepancies in three different banks. We find also that the newly added Merchants Bank of P.E.I. does not hold quite up to the minimum of Dominion notes. These are trivial errors, and are no doubt owing to carelessness on the part of some one through whose hands the preparation of the statement passes. Balances between