HEAVY FIRE LOSS AT CALGARY.

The year 1913 has begun inauspiciously from the point of view of the fire underwriter in Canada with an enormous loss at Calgary, Alberta, the packing plant of P. Burns & Company being destroyed last Sunday, January 12. The plant was situated across the Bow River and occupied four or five acres. The water pressure was not good, presumably owing to the fact that quite recently after exceptionally mild weather a rapid drop in temperance had effected the formation of frazil ice, reducing the supply from the intake water main. We understand that had a normal pressure of water been available, the plant would probably have been saved from total destruction.

At the present writing, the indications are that the insurance loss on this fire will be nearly $1,000,000, a good deal of it falling on the non-tariff companies and Lloyds. The loss on stock is said to be total and on buildings and machinery 75 per cent. The following list of companies and underwriters interested in only given *subject to correction*:—

INSURANCE ON BUILDINGS AND MACHINERY.

Caledonian	$ 7,500	Central Canada, Brandon	$ 6 000
Continental	5,000	Dominion	5,000
Canadian Fire	5,000	Factories	30,000
Delaware	5,000	Fidelity Undrs.	5,000
Germania	10,000	Fidelity-Phenix	10,000
General Fire	10,000	London Mutual	20,000
London Assurance	5,000	Lloyd's	48,000
Law Union & Rock	8,000	Lloyd's Factories Underwriters	60,000
North British	20,000	Lumber	12,000
National of H.	15,000	New York Fire & Marine	25,000
Nova Scotia	5,000	Rimouski	5,000
Norwich Union	10,500	Royal London (non-tariff)	20 000
Springfield	15,000	Royal Scottish	5,000
Sun	10,000	Sovereign	10,000
Western	8,000		
Yorkshire	10,000		
Central Can. Mfrs.	5,000		
Loss	.75 p.c.	Total	$415,000

INSURANCE ON STOCK.

Aetna	$ 7,500	Federal Underwriters	$ 4,500
Continental	5,000	Firemans	3,000
Globe & Rutgers	50,000	Gladback	5 000
Germania	5,000	Insurance Underwriters	8,500
General	10,000	Inter-State	1,500
London Assurance	5,000	Lloyd's	5,000
Law Union & Rock	10,000	Lloyd's	50,000
Nova Scotia	5,000	Lloyd's	35,000
National Fire	5,000	Lloyd's	35,000
North British	15,000	Lloyd's	17,500
National of H.	20,000	Lloyd's	20,000
Norwich Union	4,500	Lloyd's	15,000
Rochester German	5,000	Lloyd's (Factories Undrs)	16,500
Stuyvesant	5.000	Lloyd's (Factories Undrs)	14,000
"	40,000	Lumber Undrs.	7,500
Sovereign	3,000	Law Fidelity & General	1 500
Sun	5 000	London Mutual	5,000
Springfield	5,000	Lumber	8 000
Western	23,500	London Mutual	5,000
Yorkshire	10,000	Montreal-Canada	2,000
American	5,000	Montreal-Canada	1,000
Anglo-American	2,000	North River	15,000
American	5,000	North River	10,000
Anglo American	1,000	New York Fire & Marine	15,000
British Empire	3,000	Ontario	4,000
British General	10,000	Royal London (non-tariff)	10,000
Central Canada, Brandon	6,000	Rimouski	5,000
Colonial	2,500	Winnipeg Fire	2 000
Car & General	10,000	Phoenix (? which)	15,000
Canada National	5,000	Other Companies	15,000
Central Canada Mfrs.	5,000		
Canadian	2,500		
Dominion	4,000		
Factories	20,000		
Factories	8,000		
Loss, total		Total	$679,000

THE HOME LIFE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

The financial statement of the Home Life Association of Canada as at December 31, 1912, shows that this company continues to enlarge steadily its assets and its security to policyholders. The net invested assets which at the close of 1911 stood at $1,330,549 were raised in the course of the twelve months to $1,441,033. Of these invested assets, $528,780 comprise holdings of bonds, debentures, stocks and real estate, $789,284 are represented by loans on collaterals, first mortgages on real estate, policy loans and accounts receivable, and there is $122,969, cash in banks and on hand. The total security to policyholders is further increased to $2,282,579, against $2,141,363 last year. This security comprises reserves and net surplus on policyholders' account, $1,501,779, and capital subscribed, subject to call, $780,800. Mr. H. Pollmann Evans is the president of this company, and Mr. J. K. McCutcheon, managing director. The company received cash premiums last year of $203,830, and cash interest and rents, $60,878, and paid out in claims, annuities and expenses, $154,224.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN ONTARIO.

From the mass of evidence, argument and discussion placed before Sir William Meredith, the outlines of what are likely to prove leading features of the new Workmen's Compensation Act for Ontario are beginning to emerge. Points which have become clear at recent sittings are that no right of lump sum payments of compensation will be allowed. "This legislation is social," Sir William declared at one sitting, "there is no disguising the fact. The very basis of it is to prevent the injured workman becoming a charge on the community. If this were not so one of the primary objects of the scheme would be defeated. If we allow compensation in a lump sum it might be squandered, and if that were permitted it would defeat our primary object."

Farm labourers are apparently not to be included in the new Act. Railways will not be grouped with other industries but will stand by themselves although in line with the general principles of the Act. The matter of classification will be left to the administering Commission, the law merely laying down the broad lines of classification. The compensation schedule will allow 60 per cent. of the monthly wage as the maximum compensation.

Among those who have given evidence this week are Mr. F. W. Hinsdale, who is connected with the administration of the new State of Washington Workmen's Compensation Act and Mr. B. L. Cease, a railroad man, and a member of the Federal Commission on Compensation appointed by President Taft. Mr. F. W. Wegenast has stated that what the Canadian Manufacturers' Association wish is a collective system on a current cost plan recognizing contributions from the workingmen in some form. The enquiry will probably be closed shortly, so that action can be taken at the next session of the Legislature.

Bell Telephone announces a new stock issue of $3,000,000 at par, in the proportion of one new share for every five held. Payments for the stock are due at the quarters of the current year, the right to subscribe expiring February 28.