

STATE OF ILLINOIS INSURANCE REPORT, Part 11, Life, Casualty and Assessment Insurance and Fraternal Societies.—The life business done last year, excluding industrial, was, policies issued for \$112,322,519; premiums received, \$18,441,158. The amount at risk at end of 1901 was \$534,082,285. The industrial in force at same date was, \$1,579,476,292. The accident insurance in force was \$118,561,150; and of assessment, \$80,040,552. The assessment business fell off very heavily last year. The fraternal societies seem to be in high favour in Illinois, as they have \$835,094,186 insurance in force, which is more than the level premium, industrial and assessment combined by \$138,600,000.

We have been favoured with the following publications:

THE CHESS PLAYERS' COMPENDIUM, A Practical Guide to the Openings, by William Cook, author of The Synopsis of Chess Openings, published by "The Bristol Times and Mirror," Ltd. This unique work is a collection of nearly 2,000 examples of chess games as actually played by experts. To any chess player who desires to improve himself and to acquire a knowledge of the different openings and defences of this king of games, the work before us would be invaluable. By showing the movements from the opening onwards made by experts on both sides of the board, it serves as a teacher of chess, and enables a thoughtful player to have a wider experience with players of special skill than is possible under ordinary circumstances. A player can make little progress unless he can continually engage with an opponent who is his superior in skill. With "The Chess Players' Compendium" at his side the chess student, alone or in company, may sit down, as it were, with most accomplished players and learn their methods and style. It is to be regretted that our youths and young men take so little interest in chess which is the most fascinating and intellectual of games.

STILL GROWING.

The Montreal Clearing House figures for September are fully in keeping with the extraordinary growth of the preceding months of the present prosperous year.

The total clearings for the past month exceeded \$100,000,000. The total for September, 1901, was \$73,000,000, an increase of \$27,000,000, or over 25 per cent.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., October 1, 1902.

To-day's closing shows stocks generally on a lower price level than a week ago, but in the majority of cases the closing quotation is at a good recovery from the week's lowest. The continued money stringency in New York culminated on Monday in almost a panic, but relief came yesterday, and prices strengthened. It would seem at present that the most acute stage of the stringency has been passed, and although it is likely that rates will continue high and money scarce for some weeks, still there will not likely be pressure to sell. It must be borne in mind, however, that any attempt at a bull movement is likely to again cause a greater demand for money than is at present available, and, therefore, for some little time to come we would be inclined to advise sales on every advance. Our local market, in view of everything, held remarkably steady, owing to the conservative action of our bankers, who deserve every commendation, and the liquidating movement was at no time very heavy, and the recovery

that has since set in has advanced prices generally from the lowest level, and the market closes in a better condition, but with an evident disinclination to purchase stocks at the present. Money is tight here to the extent that the majority of the banks refuse to give out any new money, but there is apparently no question of calling present loans, and any liquidation in the stock market will, therefore, open to the brokers a borrowing reserve. Dominion Coal Common and Dominion Steel Common were heavy sufferers in this week's decline, largely owing to calls being made on these special stocks in Boston, but have recovered part of the lost ground. R. & O. continues very heavy, but seems to have touched bottom at 103, and the stock, as soon as active buying resumes, should show a good profit from these figures. We advise caution for some weeks.

The quotation for call money in New York to-day is 6 to 8 per cent., and the London rate is 2½ to 3 per cent. In Montreal money continues tight at 6 per cent.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

	Market.	Bank.
Paris.....	2½	3
Berlin.....	2½	3
Hamburg.....	2½	3
Frankfort.....	2½	3
Amsterdam.....	2½	3
Vienna.....	2½	3½
Brussels.....	2½	3

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C. P. R. sold down to 137 here this week, which is almost 3 points above the lowest price touched in New York. A recovery has set in, however, and the closing quotation to-day was 138½, being a net decline on quotation of 1 point for the week. The sales totalled 9,120 shares. In the New Stock 2,368 shares changed hands, and the closing bid was 138½, a loss of 1 point for the week.

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The Grand Trunk Railway Company's stock quotations as compared with a week ago are as follows:—

	A week ago.	To-day.
First Preference.....	110½	109½
Second Preference.....	96½	97½
Third Preference.....	42½	43

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Montreal Street was fairly active this week and sold down to 275, but has recovered and closed at 277½ bid, a net decline of ½ point for the week on transactions of 1,450 shares. The earnings for the week ending 27th instant show an increase of \$3,797.20, as follows:—

		Increase.
Sunday.....	\$6,882.19	\$ 698.76
Monday.....	6,340.42	230.18
Tuesday.....	5,970.71	393.83
Wednesday.....	6,107.00	903.81
Thursday.....	5,969.71	605.46
Friday.....	5,766.86	263.65
Saturday.....	6,803.68	641.51

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Toronto Railway closed with 119 bid, a decline of 1 point from last week's quotation, but an advance of a full point from this week's lowest. The transactions totalled 1,427 shares and the stock closed fairly strong. The earnings for the week ending 27th inst. show an increase of \$5,081.86, as follows:—