

injustice, and can hardly fail to be injurious to the best interests of any municipality that so discriminates against a section of its ratepayers.

THE PAY AT THE DOOR CARS.—The Street Railway Company placed itself in the wrong by introducing cars of a new style on its tracks without obtaining the assent of the City Council, for the law distinctly declares that, before any new style of car is adopted, a model of it must be submitted to the council and approved by them. These new cars are so arranged that before a passenger can enter them he must pay his fare to the conductor on the rear platform. When numbers wish to enter a car it is impossible for them to all pay their fare without causing considerable delay, during which many are compelled to stand in the roadway, or on the steps. When the winter sets in this will be an intolerable nuisance and source of serious risk to health, to all but the most robust, in fact, the "pay at the door" cars will have to be abandoned, for they will be boycotted by passengers. At the same time it must be admitted that those new cars are very handsome and comfortable; it is a great relief to be free from the movements of the conductor constantly asking for fares.

SENATOR MACKAY, ON THE HARBOUR BOARD.—At a recent meeting of the Harbour Board, the Hon. Senator Mackay said: "We have been here one hour and a half and done about ten minutes' business." A sharper censure could not be passed on a body of citizens entrusted with public business. The Senator added: "Here we go from one thing to another," which explains the confusion, the wrangling, the waste of time which is so characteristic of Harbour Board meetings. While all this irregularity is going on, the business of the port is being neglected and its interests injured. The reputation of Montreal as a business community is depreciated by the remarkable exhibitions at the meetings of the Harbour Board.

MR. WILLIAM T. STANDEN, the eminent actuary will retire from his position with the United States Life, to accept a similar one with the Capital Life, of Denver, which has been recently organized, says the "Boston Standard," by Mr. Thos. F. Daly, formerly Colorado State manager of the United States Life, which company will retain Mr. Standen as consulting actuary.

MUNICIPAL ENTENTE CORDIALE.—An exceedingly significant manifestation of the good feeling now existing between England and France recently occurred in London. The chief municipal authorities of Paris, with members of their families, were hospitably entertained as the guests of the Lord Mayor of London, by whom and his colleagues they

were shown the most marked courtesies. The visitors inspected the water-works for providing the metropolis with water, which excited great interest. A variety of social functions took place in honour of the Parisian officials, who, on leaving for home, expressed their intense gratification at the cordiality of their reception in London.

Notes and Items.

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

MONTREAL CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending November 9, 1905—Clearings, \$31,161,904; corresponding week 1904, \$18,040,627; corresponding week 1903, \$25,252,281.

THE LIBERTY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, New York City, is to be incorporated with a capita of \$100,000.

OTTAWA CLEARING HOUSE.—Total for week ending November 2, 1905—Clearings, \$2,340,853; corresponding week last year, \$1,836,284.

A PROFITABLE COMPANY for shareholders is A. & F. Pears, Limited. All the capital invested in ordinary shares has been returned after being held 10 years, and the dividends go on regularly at 10 per cent.

THE LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE Co., having absorbed the Scottish Employers' Liability and General Insurance Co., has found its business in Edingurgh so increased as to require larger offices. The chief U. S. offices of this company are to be removed from New York to Hartford.

SPORTS THAT ARE FIXED.—"The Scottish Critic" tells of a recent wrestling match, the result of which was arranged beforehand. No news! Revelations respecting prize fights have been made recently which show these affairs to be as fraudulent as they are brutal. As to horse races, they are usually fixed between the jockeys.

BOSTON'S 25 YEARS' RECORD.—A statement issued by Mr. Osborne Howes, Secretary of the Boston Board of Fire Underwriters, shows that city to be more than ordinarily favoured as regards fire losses. In the last 25 years the premiums amounted to \$70,084,111, and losses \$35,161,809, the ratio of losses being a small fraction over 50 per cent.

VALUE OF ACCIDENT INSURANCE.—I notice with interest that some companies are using the picture post-card as a means of advertising. What vivid advertisements might be drawn by a clever artist! For instance, he might show a gentleman falling from a precipice. Underneath would be the wording, "Why does he look so happy? Because though at present he is worth nothing, when he bumps he will be worth £1,000, thanks to the Mountaineering Insurance Company."—"Business."

WILL TAKE ARKANSAS RISKS.—The Queen and the Royal are to issue policies on Arkansas risks direct from their Atlanta general agencies. Manager Milton Dargan, of the Royal and S. Y. Tupper, of the Queen, have looked over the Arkansas situation. They propose to credit the regular commissions on the business to the local agents where the property is located, to be paid to them as soon as the law makes it possible to do so. This will tend to arouse the local agents to the necessity of a modification of the law.—The "Investigator."