

# The Chronicle

## Insurance & Finance.

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### Life Agent's Manual.

The eleventh edition (1906) of this valuable publication, of which every Agent should have a copy, to be properly equipped for his work, is now ready for delivery.

### Imperial Troops Bid Canada Good-Bye.

On the 9th inst., the Canadian Government took over the defenses at Esquimalt. Forty of the Imperial troops entered the Canadian service the remainder leave for England to-day. Lt.-Col. English, R.A., the present commander is expected to take service with Canada, he was formerly on the staff of the Military College, Kingston.

### Brigands Captured.

It is reported that three of the miscreants who "held up" a train on the Canadian Pacific Railway have been caught. They will discover that the climate of Canada is very hard on men of their class. No punishment could be too severe for such a crime, it involves murderous intentions with robbery of the most infamous character, all deliberately planned.

The Canadian Pacific is a very dangerous subject for attack. It will defend its passengers and freight at any cost.

### Blighting Effects of Socialistic Agitation.

Remarkable and convincing evidence of the blighting effect upon capital is afforded by the financial conditions in France. Senator Forget, who has just returned from Europe, reports that the monied classes in France are so distrustful of the future that they are forwarding funds for investment to outside countries, some of which was finding its way to Canada. Although the May Day demonstration in Paris was a failure there were elements of danger in evidence that needed stern repression. It needs only a small gang of miscreants, organized ostensibly for a political movement, to throw a large city into commotion and fill capitalists with alarm.

What good wage earners imagine they can derive by causing capital to take wings for foreign countries is a mystery. Between the times that raw materials can be transformed into saleable merchandise and sales of finished products completed, the artisans engaged in this operation must be supported by capital. Human folly reaches its highest point when those who live by labour so act as to drive away capital which is the very foundation and the life of industry.

### European Fire Ratios.

The Statistics Committee of the National Fire Underwriters' Association at its New York meeting submitted statistics furnished by

American consuls in Europe.

The tabulation includes 43 cities of Europe. Only 30 of these gave the loss, which may be assumed to be the insurance loss, as there appear to be no data of losses not covered by insurance. The remarkably low average is shown of 61 cents loss per capita against \$3.10 in the five years' average of 252 American cities. In the European average of 61 cents is included the cities of Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia, with an average of \$1.32 and \$1.42, respectively, and if we eliminate these two, we should have a still lower average per capita for the remaining 28 cities. Certainly the American per capita loss when thus compared is most striking and alarming, and while, on the one hand, it explains the higher rates of premium which must of necessity be charged on this continent, on the other hand, it points unmistakably to the remedies which should be applied to check the waste—such as improved methods of building construction added to the greatest care and the use of the best known facilities for protection against fire.

"Taking the number of fires to each 1,000 population in the same cities, we find it is 4.05 in the American cities as against .86 in those of Europe, showing that in point of frequency, fires here are far in excess of those abroad, which would seem to indicate a general lack of care in the United States, perhaps on the part of all classes. Practically all fires are confined to the buildings or place of origin in the European cities."