

Cause of Accidents.	Textile Trades.		Killed.		Injured.	
	1904	1905	1904	1905	1904	1905
Injured by machinery, belting, etc.	2	..	1	13	13	41
Injured by a loom	..	..	..	2	5	..
Injured by a picker	..	..	..	1	2	..
Injured by a shuttle	..	..	..	1	1	..
Injured by a spindle	..	..	..	1	1	..
Injured by an elevator	..	..	1	1	2	..
Falling from a building	..	..	1	1	1	..
Collapse of a building	..	..	..	1	1	..
Injured by a drawing frame	..	..	..	2	..	..
Run over by train	..	..	1	..	..	..
Ignition of cotton	..	..	1	..	..	1
Falling material	..	..	..	..	..	3
Unclassified	1	..	..	2	2	..
Total	3	2	3	23	30	46

Cause of Accidents.	Food and Tobacco Preparation.		Killed.		Injured.	
	1904	1905	1904	1905	1904	1905
Injured by machinery, belting, etc.	1	..	5	12	23	27
Falling from vehicles	2	..	6	10	2	..
Falling from a ladder	..	..	1	3	..	..
Falling in various ways not specified	3	..	4	9	6	14
Injured by bursting of bottles	1	..	2	4	..	..
Run over by cars	1	1	..	2	..	..
Injured by elevators	1	1	4	6	2	..
Scalded by hot water	..	..	3	4	10	..
Injured by falling of tree	1	..	1	1	..	..
Injured by live stock	1	..	..	2	2	..
Crushed by goods in workshop, etc.	..	..	3	2	..	..
Injured by a knife or tools	..	1	1	2	7	..
Injured by a dough mixer	..	..	1	2	..	..
Explosion of as, etc.	2	1	..	9	7	..
Drowned	..	3	..	..	..	..
Smothered in grain bin	..	2	..	..	..	..
Electric shock	..	..	..	..	1	..
Dropped dead while fighting fire	..	1	..	..	..	..
Railway accident	..	1	..	..	..	..
Falling material	..	1	..	..	7	..
Unclassified	1	..	13	..	..	..
Total	6	9	20	55	76	79

Cause of Accidents.	Leather Trades.		Killed.		Injured.	
	1904	1905	1904	1905	1904	1905
Injured by machinery, belting, etc.	1	4	2	1	6	11
Burned in a fire	2	..	..	..	..	..
Injured by tools	..	..	..	..	..	..
Falling	..	..	1	1	2	..
Unclassified	1	..	3	..	..	..
Total	2	6	3	4	7	13

RESULTS TO SIXTEEN BRITISH FIRE OFFICES.

A list of forty-one British Fire Insurance Companies was published last month, whose paid-up capital is £7,836,646, and fire reserves £29,864,025 apart from other reserves. From this list which we find in the Post Magazine, we take the figures (partial) for the sixteen companies doing business in Canada:—

Year 1907.	Net premiums.	Per cent. loss.	Per cent. expense.	Total outgo.	Fire reserves.
Alliance	£1,352,679	42.6	37.4	80.0	2,000,000
Atlas	1,029,447	45.5	36.4	81.9	676,215
Caledonian	445,635	46.8	36.8	83.6	148,545
Commercial Union	2,882,362	49.3	36.4	85.7	2,196,119
Guardian	538,650	56.0	34.0	90.0	749,850
Law, Union & Crown	243,263	36.4	35.3	71.7	50,000
Liverpool & London	2,635,288	50.6	33.2	83.8	1,060,000
London Assurance	657,293	42.1	35.9	78.0	420,000
London & Lancashire	1,471,088	48.3	33.2	81.5	590,000
North British & Mercantile	2,157,534	51.6	33.3	84.9	2,413,013
Northern	1,268,468	49.1	35.0	84.1	1,434,234
Norwich Union	1,119,358	52.0	36.1	88.1	1,287,095
Phoenix	1,498,190	47.9	34.2	82.1	950,000
Royal	3,670,215	47.9	34.3	82.2	3,500,000
Scottish Union	642,503	55.6	34.0	85.6	300,000
Sun	1,477,643	48.9	35.9	84.8	591,057
	23,189,616	48.16 av.	35.00 av.	83.16 av.	17,366,128

From this tabulation we learn that the average rate of loss to these companies in 1907 was 48.16, and the average ratio of expense 35 per cent. of the premiums—a very creditable result. No company has an outgo of more than 90 per cent., and the average is 83.16, which leaves 16.84 per cent. to be applied to dividend and reserve.

BRITISH INSURANCE NOTES.

Opposition to Fire Inquests Bill—Workmen and the Accident Hazard.

London, June 5th.
The Fire Inquests Bill meets with some opposition from commercial men. They are not fond of jury service and they argue that the expense of the inquiries will be beyond the needs of the situation. It is true that suspicious fires are

exceedingly few, except among certain classes of alien traders, and these are perfectly known to insurance companies. In a word, the opposition assumes that the whole benefit of fire inquests would be to sift suspicious circumstances. But surely inquests would do something to prevent further fires. There is nothing the British juryman likes better than to add recommendations to his verdicts.

It is the common view that workmen, as they grow older, become more susceptible to accidents. The supposition is not supported by the experience of the great chemical firm of Brunner, Mond & Company. Sir John Brunner finds his men to grow steadier with age and to become less liable to meet with mishaps. Here are his figures. Out of 3,848 men employed in the period 1893-1907, the class of men aged 18 to 25 years had an average rate of accidents of 8½ per cent. Men of from 51 to 55 and over had a percentage of only 2.4 per cent.

The figures need amplifying to bring out their full meaning. But all experience of workmen's accidents is being treasured, and ideas about it are still in the melting pot. It is said freely that the greater hazards, carrying the higher premiums, are by no means the cream of the business. The companies exercise a certain selection and some decline to quote, for example, for quarrymen's risks. The domestic servant's calling is being found more perilous than had been estimated.

Scottish offices of all classes are in abundance. Enters now on the scene a company domiciled in Dublin. The Hibernian Fire & General is its name, and of its £20,000 registered capital, £9,000 has been subscribed for by its nine directors. Powers are taken to transact any insurance other than employers' liability and life. The exception first named is remarkable at a time when offices of all degrees pursue this new and fruitful line of business.

LIFE INSURANCE IN NEW YORK STATE.

Limitation of Expenses by the Armstrong Law—What the Companies Actually Spent.

The Armstrong Law, which became effective about two years ago, provided that the total expenses of life insurance companies operating in New York State should be kept within a certain well defined limit, namely, the total loadings on the premiums plus a special allowance based on the new business of the year. It was thoroughly well recognized by experts that this limitation was so generous that the most extravagantly managed company could easily live within it; in fact, by such the limitation was regarded as a farce. These views have been abundantly confirmed by the publication from the official returns of the life companies lodged with the Insurance Department in New York State, which set forth the "limitation" in dollars and cents and the total amount of the expenses for the year 1907. Below are given the results for twelve of the most representative American life offices:

Company.	Expenses Permissible By Law.	Actual Expenses.	Percent. age.
New York Life	\$17,924,777	\$9,437,433	53
Massachusetts Mutual	2,140,043	1,230,988	57
Mutual Life of New York	12,001,766	7,285,652	61
State Mutual Life	1,155,331	704,177	61
Penn. Mutual Life	3,822,232	2,378,744	62
Northwestern Mutual Life	8,162,001	5,276,793	65
New England Mutual Life	1,738,006	1,177,886	68
Berkshire Life	561,037	387,571	69
Equitable Life	12,321,738	8,545,711	69
Mutual Benefit Life	3,743,171	2,744,083	73
Provident Life & Trust	1,632,870	1,188,015	73
Etna Life	1,961,468	1,455,642	74
Total and average	\$67,164,440	\$41,812,695	62

From a careful perusal of the foregoing figures and percentages, it will be observed why such a limitation has been regarded as being so easy for the companies to keep within. It would almost be better if there were no limitation whatever, because such a false standard of economy might be misinterpreted as permitting a company to spend the total amount provided in the regulation; whereas, as a matter of fact, if any company did so it would be regarded as being a most recklessly managed institution. Any provision for limitation of expense should be such as would endeavor to bring about desirable economies, rather than setting a false standard of expense.

FIRE AND MARINE NOTES.

Advices from Dawson City, B.C., state that great damage is being done along Lake Lebarge and at Minto by forest