

ing points in his speech, the optimistic tone of which should serve as a timely antidote to the dismal lucubrations regarding the immediate outlook in Canada which seem to be widely popular in various quarters just now. Regarding the future policy of the Company, Mr. Peel mentioned that it is not proposed to make further issues of new capital at the present time, but with a view to possibilities a charter for a new subsidiary company has been secured in Saskatchewan. "The board is of opinion," Mr. Peel also observed, "that the time has come when the shareholders may begin to take advantage of their careful building in the past by means of gradually increasing dividends. I do not mean to say that our policy of putting large sums to reserve should be abandoned. Indeed, until the total of our reserve fund equals our paid-up capital we are bound by our statute to continue doing so; but if things continue as they are, we have every hope that, beginning with the year now in progress, we shall, without departing from our cautious policy, be able to recommend to you gradually increasing dividends."

This announcement indicates excellently the admirable position occupied by the Trust and Loan Company. The Company is fortunate in its officers, to whose work a well deserved tribute was paid at the recent annual meeting and to whom indeed is largely due the fine reputation enjoyed by the Trust and Loan Company throughout Canada. At Montreal, Col. L. Edye is the able Commissioner, and Mr. R. C. Young, the Assistant Commissioner.

#### RESTRICTION OF NEW ISSUES IN LONDON.

##### Agreement by Underwriting Firms—All Issues not of a Peremptory Nature to be Postponed.

London advices state that an agreement has been reached between the leading underwriting firms to refuse further business of this nature until the present supply of new securities has been absorbed. The decision arrived at is said to be largely due to representations made by interests whose opinions, pointedly expressed, assume the character of a demand. The arrangement will mean that all issues of new capital that are not of a peremptory character will be postponed, except in cases where the parties principally interested can rely upon the immediate and whole-hearted support of their financial following, or, in the case of companies, of their shareholders.

##### DISADVANTAGES OF SHORT-TERM FINANCING.

It has been customary, for some time, says a banking authority writing in the *Financial News*, when the public demand is not sufficiently strong to justify expectations of a successful issue, for a temporary arrangement to be made by an issue of short-term notes. This arrangement is unsatisfactory in that it only postpones the day when a public appeal has to be made; but it sometimes has the advantage that better terms are obtainable at the later date, which, in fact, is the only reason for issuing short-dated securities. The banks and other professional investors have (or had) a liking for these short-term securities, because they are redeemable at a fixed price at a fixed date, and are therefore not liable to fluctuations. But even the short-dated market has become seriously congested, the reason being quite simple. Borrowers who have placed, say, six months' bills during the last twelve months in the hope of

getting better public terms at the end of the period find that the position has made very little, if any, improvement. They are now obliged to arrange for a renewal of the bills, if they can, instead of a public issue; and so the congestion which arose in the first place from the unwillingness of the public to take up new securities has spread all along the main line and into the branches of finance, until the banks have at last been obliged to make an appeal which will prevent the continuance of the unwise emission of new capital.

#### CASUALTY AND SURETY UNDERWRITERS AT QUEBEC.

The tentative programme for the third annual meeting of the International Association of Casualty & Surety Underwriters which is to be held at the Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, July 8-11, has now been issued. In addition to the routine business, including an address by the President (Mr. Charles H. Holland, of New York), and addresses by the sectional presidents, the following special addresses have been arranged for:

"Workmen's Compensation," by Hon. George Sutherland, United States Senator from Utah.

"The Fact, the Specifications, the Cause and the Cure of the Antagonistic Feeling Towards Casualty Companies," by John T. Stone, president, Maryland Casualty Company, Baltimore, Md.

"The Economic and Essential Functions of the Insurance Companies in the Administration of Workmen's Compensation Laws," by R. L. Drake, Secretary, Industrial Accident Board of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan (to the Liability Section).

"Merit Ratings for Liability and Workmen's Compensation Risks," Carl M. Hansen, secretary, Accident Prevention, Inspection and Merit Classification Department, Workmen's Compensation Service Bureau, New York (to the Liability Section).

The plate glass section will be addressed by H. C. Hedden, secretary, New Jersey Fidelity & Plate Glass Insurance Company, Newark, N.J., and the steam boiler and fly wheel section by Robert J. Hillas, president, Fidelity & Casualty Company, New York. Other addresses, it is anticipated, will also be given.

The personal accident and health (stock companies section) will have presented to them the report of the committee on standard provisions for accident and health policies. The recommendations of the committee were printed in our last issue.

Mr. John Emo, general manager of the Canada Railway Accident Insurance Company, is chairman of the entertainment committee, and an excellent programme is in course of preparation. It is anticipated that a trip to Chicoutimi up the Saguenay will follow the convention.

If a man does not provide for his children, if he does not provide for all who are dependent upon him, and if he has not that vision of conditions to come and that care for the days that have not yet dawned, which we sum up in the whole idea of thrift and saving, then he has not opened his eyes to any adequate conception of human life. We are in this world to provide not for ourselves alone, but for others, and that is the basis of economy—Woodrow Wilson.