

PERSONAL NOTES

Mr. William Fitzgerald has retired as Dominion superintendent of insurance. Mr. G. D. Finlayson succeeds him.

Sir Rodolphe Forget's prediction of last year that Canadian Pacific stock would go below 200 has come true, with a big margin. But it is noticeable that Sir Rodolphe is not in the prophecy business just now.

Mr. George Wegenast, managing director of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of Canada, is touring Manitoba and Saskatchewan. He is inspecting properties on which loans have been made by the company.

Mr. H. S. Holt, president of the Royal Bank, has two sons with the colors. One of them a graduate of Kingston, holds a commission in an Imperial regiment, while the other, who is on the staff of the firm of McDougall and Cowans, Montreal, is at Valcartier as lieutenant in the Montreal Grenadier Guards.

Mr. Cecil Lubbock, director of the Bank of England, and of the Northern Assurance Company, and managing director of Whitebread's Brewery Company, has been appointed a director of the Hudson's Bay Company, filling the vacancy created by the appointment of Sir Thomas Skinner to the governorship, vice Lord Strathcona.

Mr. Maurice Ferrand, manager for Canada of the Union of Paris, has left Montreal to join his regiment in France. Mr. Ferrand is a French reservist. During his absence the company will be in charge of Mr. W. A. Wilson, superintendent of agencies, who will have the advice and assistance of the company's Canadian director, Mr. Lansing Lewis.

Sir Frederick Williams Taylor, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, for two years quietly has been urging his countrymen to get into a less vulnerable position in the matter of borrowing heavily and producing lightly. The adverse effect of the war upon Canada certainly would have been less marked had his advice been followed more generally. Instead, he was labelled pessimistic.

Mr. James Addison Halsted died at Toronto last week. Born near Whitby, in 1841, Mr. Halsted, after being in mercantile business in Listowel, moved in 1877 to Mount Forest. There, he and Mr. J. W. Scott, conducted a private banking business, from which branches developed under the name of J. A. Halsted and Company, in Shelburne, Arthur, Wingham and Durham. Selling his business in 1904, he came to Toronto in 1911, being engaged since then in financial and brokerage business here.

Mr. T. L. Armstrong, of the firm of Reed, Shaw and McNaught, Toronto, arrived in British Columbia last week. This is Mr. Armstrong's first trip to the west, and he speaks in glowing terms of the vast resources and splendid prospects of the Canadian west. He was agreeably surprised with the progressive spirit evidenced in Vancouver, which he believes is destined to become one of the greatest cities on the Pacific coast. While in Vancouver Mr. Armstrong paid a visit to the Pacific Coast Fire home office, which company is represented in Ontario by Messrs. Reed, Shaw and McNaught. Mr. Armstrong is now on his way east again and will visit points of interest in the mountains before returning to Toronto.

Mr. Fred G. Hearne, the enterprising general agent in Toronto, of the Glens Falls Insurance Company, sends *The Monetary Times* a newspaper clipping which his head office has issued. It deals with the warning by the Marshall Field store to its employees and says in part:—"It is the duty of every assured, be he a householder or an employee, to take every wise precaution to prevent fire and its dire results at all times, particularly so at the present time. Consequently we call upon every employee in every department in all parts of our business to be more than watchful and careful in this regard, and every department head will be expected to make this a personal matter with those under him, to see that this is carried out."

Mr. H. N. Dickinson, present secretary of the Glens Falls Insurance Company, was a civil engineer by profession, but many years ago "side-lined" an insurance agency which finally brought him wholly into the business. He served a couple of other companies for several years in the Pennsylvania and West Virginia field as special agent, and

came to the Glens Falls 12 years ago, serving as special agent in Pennsylvania and southern and western New Jersey. In 1912 he was made assistant secretary. Like the other officers of the company he has experience in the field and office and is well seasoned for his present duties. He already has a large acquaintance with the company's agents, and as he is liked by these so will he be liked by others when they know him, for he is a friend making and friend deserving man. The Glens Falls Company has agencies now throughout Canada as well as the United States.

Mr. John Howard Hunter, the Toronto barrister, who died last week, was one of Canada's leading citizens. Only 37 years old, he had won already a prominent place in the legal profession and had become an expert in insurance practice and law. His father was the late Dr. J. Howard Hunter, superintendent of insurance for Ontario and the son in early years had absorbed much of the parent's knowledge of underwriting and its fine technical points. Mr. Hunter was a keen young man, and had exceptional ability. He impressed everyone with his businesslike ways. After a notable course at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, he graduated in 1900, and became associated with his brothers in the well-known legal firm of Hunter and Hunter, Temple Building, Toronto. Shortly afterwards he accepted the appointment as solicitor for the Western Assurance Company, and for several years was in charge of its legal department at the head office. Besides looking after the legal business of the Western, he was also associated with the management of its foreign department, and was enabled to obtain an extensive and thorough grasp of insurance from the practical as well as from the legal standpoint. Having thus equipped himself, he opened an office for the practice of the law. His advice was much sought by insurance men with legal questions to solve or administrative situations to handle. Among the insurance companies for which he acted as legal adviser were the following:—Western Assurance Company, British American Assurance Company, London Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Imperial Guarantee and Accident Insurance Company, Firemen's Fund Insurance Company and the American Central, of St. Louis.

WESTERN CROP ESTIMATE

The Manitoba Free Press publishes its annual estimate of the crop yield of the three prairie provinces, the feature of which is the total wheat yield of 134,500,000 bushels, and a selling value of all grains of \$100,000,000. The report is an encouraging one in view of the many adverse conditions from which the crop has suffered. Drought, frost, black rust, and in some districts cut worms have all taken their toll, little or big, of the 1914 crop. The following are the figures:—

Wheat.			
	Acres.	Average yield.	Total bushels.
Manitoba	3,841,428	13	49,938,564
Saskatchewan	6,003,522	12	72,042,264
Alberta	779,050	16	12,464,800
Totals	10,624,000		134,445,628
Oats.			
Manitoba	2,064,114	20	41,282,280
Saskatchewan	2,792,611	20	55,852,220
Alberta	1,778,000	30	53,340,000
Totals	6,634,725		150,474,500
Barley.			
Manitoba	1,187,136	16	18,994,176
Saskatchewan	313,537	20	6,270,740
Alberta	202,000	18	3,636,000
Totals	1,702,673		28,900,916
Flax.			
3 provinces	750,000	7	5,250,000
Grand total	17,771,398		319,071,044