PROPOSED ANGLO-FRENCH CREDIT IN NEW YORK.

The proposed Anglo-French credit seems now to have reached the stage where final details of a comparatively minor character are to be arranged, says a New York authority. The fact that the credit is to be established and that it will be subscribed liberally is conceded. All that now remains is to place the details in such form as will encourage the most liberal treatment by American investors. It is understood to be the plan to permit all bankers of responsibility who desire to enter into the underwriting to do so. Some influential bankers are desirous of depriving the entire transaction so far as possible of its appearance of a war loan by some form of provision that the proceeds shall not be used directly for the purchase of ammunition and war supplies. How far the Anglo-French finance commission will care to go in the matter of such a subterfuge remains to be seen. There is no question that they expect that importations of gold will be required right along to steady the international exchanges after they once have been restored. Thus it would be quite possible that the gold brought in should be utilized specifically for the payment of deliveries upon war contracts. Meanwhile, the fact that the sterling exchanges have been restored to a normal basis would have fully served the purpose for which the commissioners have come to the United States.

HELP THE CANADIAN PATRIOTIC FUND.

The Canadian Patriotic Fund has been called upon much more heavily than was expected. To meet the needs of July and August, $700,000 was expended, the reserves are being materially decreased and the national executive committee finds it necessary to make a further appeal to the Canadian public.

Enlistment on a great scale in Canada has been largely rendered possible by the Patriotic Fund, which is now assisting 20,000 families of men who have enlisted for overseas service. Thousands of men have gone from Canada overseas taking their lives in their hands, fully assured that the Canadian people will see to it that during their absence wives, widowed mothers and little children will be maintained in comfort. It would be an everlasting disgrace if this pledge we have given were ever broken.

But if this pledge is not to be broken, it is up to every one of us to do our bit *now*. So just reach out for your cheque book, Mr. Reader, and send in a cheque right away to your local organisation of the Patriotic Fund. The keeping of the Fund going depends on *you* doing *your* bit.

Mr. R. L. Ritchie, manager of the Royal Bank at Regina, has been appointed manager at Winnipeg, in succession to Mr. D. C. Rea, who has been transferred to Toronto.

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Mr. M. Chevalier, managing director of the Credit-Foncier Franco-Canadien, and Dr. E. P. Lachapelle, vice-president, are in the West, where the Credit-Foncier has an investment of about $20,000,000. After the war, said Mr. Chevalier, in Winnipeg, Europe would still have money for investment abroad.

Thirty Years Ago.

(*Extracts from The Chronicle of September, 1885.*)

A LARGE POLICY.

The British Empire Life has secured a $50,000 policy on the life of Mr. George Gooderham, of the firm of Gooderham & Worts, of Toronto. Mr. Gooderham is a firm believer in life assurance; he carries insurance on his life to the extent of $350,000, all of which is placed in first-class old line companies.

CONSCIENCE MONEY.

A short time since, in referring to a sum of money being returned through a priest to a company in California, we hazarded the statement that "that kind of conscience did not flourish in Canada." It would seem as if we were somewhat mistaken, as shortly afterwards we learned that $80 conscience money was returned through a London, Ont., agency, and subsequently that a large British office received various sums in a like manner, and now another British fire office hands us the following letter:—

"The Manager —— Insurance Co., Montreal.

"Sir,—A man and a woman send you $20, through their priest, in lieu of a larger amount which, through their means, your company has been loser. Hoping your Board of Directors will forgive them as they hope God to forgive them."

THE C.F. U.A.

A Toronto correspondent wrote: "I have heard of a very heated argument taking place last week between two insurance men, one holding out that the C.F.U.A. was doomed; that it had done good work, and had lasted as long as any tariff of the kind could be expected to last; that there were enemies plotting for its overthrow, etc., etc. The other party as doggedly held forth, in defence, that the companies could not afford to let the present tariff die; that the pressure originally came from England, which brought all the Companies into line on the tariff question, and that to revert to the old custom of competition and no agreements, would so demoralize insurance business that some of the larger companies would withdraw from Canada.... On the principle that threatened lives last long, I think the Association will not dissolve just yet. The prospects of such a course would deter the strong members from permitting it to come about. Still, there are breakers ahead."

RAT FIRES.

A rat will not gnaw the head of a match, but takes a keen delight in gnawing the wood part. A rat gnaws the wood part away from the head and the finished job looks very much like a log cut by a beaver. He will, however, run with a match in his mouth, and there is no law against his striking it against a wall as he runs; and he also takes a match or two sometimes to his nest. A rat will build a nest against a chimney during the summer and when the fires are started in the fall there is generally quite a number of fires from this source. —*Safety Engineering*.