

upon which both policyholders and the Society's management may be congratulated. New assurances issued and taken up during 1910 amounted to \$4,667,900 (of which \$419,750 was re-assured with other offices), this being the largest new business for any year in the history of the Society. The corresponding net new premiums (including single premiums of \$265,580) amounted to \$402,730 and the sum of \$207,115 was received for annuities granted during the year. The claims by death, including bonus additions, amounted to \$1,102,770, being approximately only 71 p.c. of the sum expected by the Om. Mortality table, and 8 p.c. less than in 1909. The sum of \$912,380 was added to the net funds, which at December 31 last, amounted to \$27,704,225. The average rate of interest earned on the funds was slightly over 4 p.c. and the expenses of management amounted to 12.34 p.c. of the premium income, compared with an average ratio of 13.40 for the last five years, and of 14.16 for the preceding quinquennial period. The report on the results of the quinquennial investigation showed a surplus of \$1,089,355, of which \$1,645,430 was applied to provide a compound bonus of \$8.75 p.c. p.a. on with-profit policies and \$1.25 p.c. p.a. on minimum premium policies and \$343,925 was carried forward. Attention may be called to the very stringent basis of valuation of liabilities. It is thus described by the General Manager.

"The Life Assurance Contracts have been valued by the Om. (5) Mortality table combined with Om net premiums and 2½ p.c. interest, and the reserves required by this basis have been largely increased by taking credit for 90 p.c. only of the net premiums still to be received. The remaining 10 p.c. in addition to the whole loading (or difference between the office premiums and net premiums) has therefore, been left available as a provision for future expenses and profits."

It is interesting to note with regard to the death claims paid by this Society during 1910, that on an average \$775 was paid for each \$500 originally assured by such of the policies maturing by death as had been effected with full participation in profits and that in twenty of these cases the sum originally assured had been more than doubled by the addition of bonuses.

The steady progress made by this Society during recent years is shown in the following table:—

	Quinquennial Periods.		Year.
	1901-5	1906-10	1910
Average annual growth in Funds.	\$605,000	\$735,000	\$910,000
Annual Pre. Income.	32,000	59,500	62,000
Interest Revenue.	23,500	30,500	45,000
Average rate of interest.	£3.19.8	£4.0.3	£4.6.11
Average rate of Exs. to total Premiums.	14.16	13.40	12.34

DEATH OF MR. J. J. KENNY.

News of the death of Mr. J. J. Kenny, at his ranch in Soquel, near San Francisco on Monday, has been received with regret by insurance men throughout the Dominion. Among Canadian fire underwriters, there was hardly any one better known than Mr. J. J. Kenny, and certainly there

was no one more popular among his *confères* of other companies than he. An unfailing tact and courtesy, as well as an unswerving probity, marked his business relations, and for those things Mr. Kenny's name will be held in grateful remembrance.

Though an Englishman by birth, and for a time as a junior engaged in the service of a life company at Hamilton, practically the whole of Mr. Kenny's business career was passed in the service of the two fire companies, the Western Assurance Company and British America Assurance Company, of Toronto, with which his name was for so long associated as managing director. Mr. Kenny's rise in the service of these companies was rapid and he was appointed their managing director in 1880. Subsequently in 1895 he became vice-president, holding the two positions until the beginning of 1907, when he retired. In those responsible positions, Mr. Kenny was held in high esteem by the Canadian fire insurance fraternity and by all, in fact, with whom he was brought into contact. He was prominently identified with the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, at one time occupying the position of president, and the regard in which he was held by members of the association was shown on his retirement, when, as recorded in our own columns at the time members of the Toronto committee testified that "members are not forgetful of your unfailing tact and courtesy in dealing with the affairs and problems that have concerned them."

On his retirement in 1907, Mr. Kenny moved to California for the benefit of his health, and acquired a ranch. While there, also, he acted as Pacific Coast manager of the Western with headquarters in San Francisco. But little over a month ago Mr. Kenny wrote to us, incidentally mentioning that he had been "under the weather," but was at the time of writing much better again.

Mr. Kenny, who was a member of the Church of England, leaves a widow and daughter, who are at present in San Francisco. He was at one time rear-commodore of the Royal Canadian Yacht Club

A DEFINITION OF LIFE INSURANCE.

Its Basis, the Social Obligation of every Individual, says Mr. Darwin P. Kingsley—An Analysis of its Functions.

The term of "life insurance" is a misnomer, writes Mr. Darwin P. Kingsley, President of the New York Life. Death, not life, is the concrete fact about which the plan of life insurance centres. A life insurance policy does not undertake to insure continuance of life, although life insurance undoubtedly has a tendency to increase the longevity of the insured. The real purpose of life insurance is such that it could not perform its full function in any form of society based on authority. Until