

Curling Stones

KAY'S "EXCELSIOR."

SPECIAL PRICES TO CLUBS.

Shipment by SS. "Pretorian" just arrived.

The Keith & Fitzsimons Co.,
Limited.

111 King St. West, - TORONTO

The British Mortgage Loan Co. OF ONTARIO.

Dividend Number 53.

Notice is hereby given that a Dividend at the rate of Six per cent. per annum, on the Paid-up Capital Stock of this Company, for the half-year ending the 31st day of December, has this day been declared, and that the same is payable at the office of the Company, in the City of Stratford, on and after

Tuesday, the 3rd Day of January next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 31st December, inclusive.

By order of the Board.

WM. BUCKINGHAM,

Stratford, Dec. 5th, 1904.

Manager.

Debentures for Sale.

TOWN OF RED DEER, N. W. T.

The town of Red Deer, N.W.T., has fifteen thousand dollars' (\$15,000.00) worth of debentures for sale, covering twenty years, and bearing interest at 5 per cent. These debentures are issued for the installation of a water-works system.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tenders for Debentures," will be received at the office of the undersigned up to DECEMBER 30TH, 1904. The debentures will be sold in whole or in blocks to suit purchasers.

L. C. FULMER,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Red Deer, N.W.T.

The Standard Loan Company.

Take Notice that a Special General Meeting of the Shareholders of The Standard Loan Company will be held at the Head Office of the Company, Number 24 Adelaide Street East, in the City of Toronto, on Monday, the 19th day of December, 1904, at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of taking into consideration and, if approved, of ratifying and accepting an agreement provisionally entered into by the Directors of the Standard Loan Company and the Directors of the Huron and Bruce Loan and Investment Company, for the purchase by the Standard Loan Company of the assets of The Huron and Bruce Loan and Investment Company, upon the terms and conditions prescribed in the said agreement.

And take notice that the said agreement may be inspected by any Shareholder at the Head Office of the Company.

Dated this 9th day of November, 1904.

W. S. DINNICK,

Vice-President and Managing Director.

days, and stock-taking and balancing are the all-absorbing occupations of the moment. There is hardly a sufficiency of snow to make good roads yet, but trade in the country is apparently very fair, and general remittances may be called satisfactory. Complaints continue to be heard regarding city retail trade; it is slack.

Furs.—While offerings of raw furs are rather more numerous, no large supplies are yet coming forward, good snow roads being as yet lacking in the interior. We quote as follows, for prime skins: Black bear, large, \$12; medium, \$8; small, \$5 badger, 50c. for No. 1 large; fisher, \$5 for No. 1 dark; brown, \$4, pale, \$3, red fox, \$2 to \$3.25; silver fox, \$75 to \$150 for No. 1 as to size; cross fox, \$5 to \$10 for No. 1; wolverine \$2.50 to \$5; lynx, \$2.50 to \$6, as to quality; marten, \$4 to \$7 for British Columbia; Eastern skins, \$2.50 to \$4 for No. 1; mink, \$2 to \$4 for No. 1; muskrat, 8 to 10c. for fall, 10 to 15c. for prime winter; otter, \$8 to \$12, fine Labrador pelts would bring \$18; coon, \$2.50 for fine, black, large pelts, with prices ranging down to 25c. for unprime, poor colored skins; skunk, No. 1, all black, \$1.50, short stripe, \$1.10; long stripe, 60c.; broad stripe, 20c.

Groceries.—The main volume of fall trade is pretty well over, but there is a fair sorting movement in dried fruits and general Christmas supplies, and collections as a whole are fair to good. The peculiar disparity in sugar quotations, noted last week, continues; the Canada Sugar Refining Co. having advanced its quotations since last writing, and standard granulated is now quoted at \$5.35, in barrels, by both companies, while bags are only 5 cents less the cental, instead of 10c., as heretofore. Dried fruits are all steady in price, and canned goods very firm, \$1.25 being asked for standard brands of tomatoes in an ordinary jobbing way, and \$1.15 to \$1.20 for corn. There appears to be very little molasses now in first hands, and jobbing quotations are firm at 28 to 29c. for Barbados. In teas the demand continues surprisingly light, and the market is almost featureless.

Hides.—The advance in lambskins is firmly held, \$1.10 being the general figure now paid by dealers. As yet no calfskins are reported coming in. Hides are unchanged, dealers buying No. 1 at 9c. per lb., and quoting a half cent advance to tanners.

Metals and Hardware.—With the close approach of the holiday season, there is naturally a slackening in the demand, but for the time of year, the movement is called a fair one. In pig iron there is very little doing, but quotations are steady at about \$20 ex-store for No. 1 Summerlee, with best domestic brands held at \$19. Bars are quoted at \$1.75 to \$1.80; iron pipe, \$4.12 for inch. The English market for Canada plates is again stronger, cabled quotations being now £8 for spring importation, but local quotations are unaltered at \$2.30 in a jobbing way for 52 sheets; galvanized, ditto, \$3.90 to \$4; Ternes are a little firmer at \$6.25 to \$6.50. In galvanized sheets, tinplates, etc., there

is no change. The copper market is slightly easier, but 16 to 16¼c. is still asked for jobbing lots; lead, \$3.60; antimony is very stiff in price at 9½ to 10c.; spelter, \$6.50 to \$6.75.

Oils, Paints and Glass.—Some houses are still making fair shipments to the far West and British Columbia, but travellers are all coming home, and will be occupied getting ready during the next few weeks for the spring campaign. The only change noted in values is the recovery of a cent on turpentine, which is now quoted at 78c. per gallon by the single barrel.

UNPROFITABLE MERCANTILE RISKS.

President Evans, of the Continental Fire, in a circular to his agents, has given the results of a recent analysis of about 320 separate classes of mercantile risks. He says:

Our figures demonstrate conclusively that unprotected business is inadequately rated, and that, as between the different classes of stocks, proper consideration has not been given by the rating organizations to the inflammability and susceptibility of certain stocks as compared with others. It is along these lines that the mercantile classes differ one from the other. The specially unprofitable classes, upon which our figures are in sufficient volume to show positively that the rates are inadequate as to contents, are as follows:

Cloaks (with or without Mfg.).

Clothing, Manufacturing.

Clothing, Wholesale.

Crockery.

Country Stores, without dwelling, in Villages (Unprotected).

Department Stores.

Dry Goods, Retail.

Feed Stores.

Frame Rows (Unprotected).

Glassware and Window Glass.

Groceries, Wholesale.

Hats, Retail and Wholesale.

Laces, Embroideries, etc.

Millinery.

Musical Instruments, Pianos, etc.

Notions.

Paper.

Photographers.

Paints and Oils.

Picture Stores.

Roofing Materials.

Seeds.

Stoves, Hollow-ware and Castings.

Toys.

Varnish.

Wall Paper.

Special attention should be given to unprotected frame rows and to country stores, without dwelling, in villages (unprotected). These represent a large volume of business at present on our books and we are somewhat surprised at the very unprofitable results which are shown. It is evident that risks of these two classes need serious attention, both in the way of increasing rates and in weeding out the undesirable business.