Insurance Briefs.

The Insurance Company of the State of Pennsylvania has been licensed to transact fire insurance in Canada.

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The British and Foreign Marine Insurance Company has been licensed to transact the business of Inland Transportation insurance in Canada, in addition to the business of sprinkler leakage insurance for which it was already licensed.

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The Insurance Company of North America has been licensed to transact in Canada the business of Automobile insurance, in addition to Fire insurance and Inland Transportation insurance for which it was already licensed.

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Application will be made to the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council by the City of Hamilton Fire Insurance Company, Cash Mutual and Stock, for authority to increase the share or stock capital from $100,000 to $300,000 by the issue of 2,000 new shares of the par value of $100 each. Authority will also be asked to change the name of the company by striking out the words "The City of."

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Mr. T. B. Parkinson and Mr. M. D. Johnson have been appointed joint managers for Ontario of the Aetna Life Assurance Company, in succession to Mr. J. O. McCarthy, who has resigned. Their headquarters will be in Toronto. Mr. Parkinson was formerly superintendent of agencies of the Continental Life Insurance Company and has been an active and useful member of the Dominion Life Underwriters' Association, of which he is now an honorary officer and chairman of the transportation committee. Mr. Johnson has for some years been assistant manager of the Aetna Life and his promotion is both deserved and popular.

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In the Quebec House on Tuesday, Mr. Sylvestre criticized the Provincial Government for its want of control over the mutual fire insurance companies which had gone into liquidation. Mr. Sylvestre submitted to the House a resolution covering the various points of the case, concluding as follows: "This House is of the opinion that the Government should be blamed and censured for its negligence and lack of method, etc., and it invites the Government for the future to watch more closely over these insurance companies while doing business in this province, so that the public should be properly protected." The motion was lost by 48 to 15.

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The death is announced at Toronto of Mr. Thomas Walmsley, of the firm of Scott & Walmsley, underwriters, 22 Church Street. From 1866, Mr. Walmsley had been a partner with Mr. Hugh Scott, who died quite recently. Mr. Walmsley was vice-president of the Queen City Fire Insurance Co. and the Hand-in-Hand Insurance Co. until the annual meeting in February last, when Mr. Scott retired from the position of president and Mr. Walmsley was elected. Mr. Walmsley had also been a director of the Millers and Manufacturers Insurance Co. and the Fire Insurance Exchange Corporation for many years. Mr. Walmsley saw service at the time of the Fenian Raid.

STATEMENT OF ACCIDENTS IN CANADA DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1912, BY INDUSTRIES AND GROUPS OF TRADES.

Trade or Industry.	Killed	Injur'd	Total
Agriculture	3	7	10
Lumbering	1	8	9
Mining	5	8	13
Railway construction	14	8	22
Building Trades	2	8	10
Metal Trades	3	48	51
Woodworking Trades	1	6	7
Clothing	...	2	2
Textiles	...	3	3
Food and Tobacco preparation	...	2	2
Leather	...	2	2
Transportation—			
Steam Railway Service	12	31	43
Electric Railway Service	1	4	5
Navigation	1	3	4
Miscellaneous	4	15	19
Public Employees	3	9	12
Miscellaneous Skilled Trades	3	5	8
Unskilled Labour	8	9	17
Total	61	178	239

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WHERE FIRE INSURANCE DIVIDENDS COME FROM.

Critics of fire insurance rates have frequently asserted that the dividends paid to stockholders of fire insurance companies evidenced improper and exorbitant charges for indemnity. In the light of the facts that eighty-nine millionaire companies' investment earnings not only paid their aggregate dividends in the last decade but contributed $79,076,934 to make up deficiencies in the underwriting account or to strengthen surplus funds, the assertion referred to is shown to have practically no foundation. In addition to the excess of investment earnings over dividends, stockholders have contributed to surplus funds, either by payment of assessments, by premium on new stock issued, or by reduction of stock, the sum of $30,494,412, thus making an aggregate of $109,571,346 in excess of dividend payments, which has either been earned by investments or contributed by stockholders. As a matter of fact, the underwriting operations of the bulk of the companies have resulted in serious net losses in several years of the last decade, and have yielded a very severe loss for the entire period, which included two great conflagrations.—The Spectator, N. Y.

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CRIMINAL FIRE WASTE.

The March Bulletin of the National Association of Credit Men says: "The soundest insurance interests of the country are undoubtedly doing more than all other factors put together to point the way to a reduction of our fire losses, though their success would mean a reduction in fire rates." Fire underwriters have been "pointing the way" for many years, have spent large sums of money in an attempt to awaken the nation to a realization of the immense amount of property destroyed annually by fire and the effects of this loss upon the nation's industrial and commercial prosperity. Yet the fire loss of the United States for the first two months of the present year was more than double that for the corresponding period of 1910, the total for the two months aggregating fifty-four and a half million dollars! And this with no conflagration to swell the total, unless the Houston loss, included in the figures given at $5,300,000, is considered a conflagration. The rest were ordinary fire losses. With such results as these, "pointing the way to a re-