A FINE RECORD.

The Metropolitan Life's executive in announcing the results of the year, states that while the ratio of collections in the industrial department is the highest ever reached the ratio of lapses is the lowest in the history of industrial insurance in England or America—lower, even, than the State subsidized little savings bank system in Massachusetts, which was designed to be a model system, though as matter of fact that system is not industrial insurance at all nor properly to be compared therewith. It is "ordinary."

The ratio of industrial expenses was decreased and reached the lowest point in the Company's history, notwithstanding the contrary influence arising from the necessarily large expense for the Union Life business on which less than a half year's income were received.

CHIEF TREMBLAY'S WARNING.

In a report which he sent to the Board of Control and which was referred to the Legislation Committee for study at the meeting of the Montreal City Council, this week, Chief Tremblay calls attention to the insufficient protection against fire on the occasions of festivities, charity sales or other performances which take place in public halls of the city. He suggests that in such cases these performances or festivities be subject to the approval of the building inspector, who would deliver to the applicants a license after the premises had been found in proper condition. Chief Tremblay also draws the attention of the council to the danger which threatens the people in overcrowded churches on Sundays, when in some cases doors are closed during the service.

WORLD-WIDE FIRE INSURANCE.

A Toronto Estimate of Invested Capital, Net Assets, Premium Income and Losses—Enormous Totals.

In the course of a recent lecture delivered before the Insurance Institute of Toronto, Mr. Grove Smith, of the Canadian Fire Underwriters' Association, produced the subjoined original estimate of capital and net assets of fire insurance companies all over the world operating on January 1, 1913, together with their premium income and losses for the year 1912. "This statement is no fancied conglomeration of figures," said Mr. Grove Smith, "they are startlingly true, and surely testify in language that cannot be misunderstood to the fact that the development of fire insurance to its present standing as one of the prime factors of the world's commercial life, has been phenomenal. The figures are so large as to be almost meaningless, even to business men, for who can adequately comprehend what one billion seven hundred and twenty-three millions of dollars in assets really mean?

"To-day fire insurance has become so indissolubly interwoven with the warp and woof of the commercial life of the world, that the disorganization and choas which would inevitably follow its termination, is unthinkable."

Nationality.	No. of Companies.		Capital Paid Up.	Assets Exclusive of Capital.	Net Premiums.	Net Losses.
American (U.S.A.)	J. Stock	241	$96,944,000	$521,161,900	$226,818,000	$122,524,000
	Mut.	280	....	....	37,330,000	11,476,000
	Lloyds	26	....	....	4,157,000	1,991,000
Australasian		16	9,505,000	22,900,000	10,585,000	4,552,000
Austrian	J. Stock	12	10,875,000	19,020,000	18,830,000	11,920,000
	Pub. Mut.	11	....	....	2,092,000	1,353,000
	Pte. Mut.	13	....	....	4,259,000	2,590,000
Balkan		10	3,183,000	8,063,000	6,260,000	3,151,000
Belgian		15	2,712,000	7,523,000	5,044,000	2,374,000
British		141	83,780,000	864,145,000	154,860,000	78,850,000
Canadian	Dom. License	28	9,126,000	9,341,000	8,531,000	4,771,000
	Prov.	215	1,742,000	?	4,433,000	3,809,000
Danish	J. S. and Mut.	11	1,818,000	6,842,000	4,619,000	3,128,000
Dutch		23	2,722,000	4,756,000	3,272,000	2,374,000
Finnish	J. S. and Mut.	10	3,043,000	15,498,000	5,700,000	3,186,000
French	J. Stock	37	10,690,000	42,028,000	37,361,000	22,898,000
	Mut.	101	....	....	6,700,000	4,020,000
German	J. Stock	37	15,412,000	56,827,000	32,640,000	19,612,000
	Mut.	21	....	....	4,793,000	3,613,000
	Monopoly Inst.	24	....	....	9,636,000	7,457,000
	Non-Monopoly Inst.	8	....	....	780,000	439,000
	Landlische	8	....	....	2,653,000	1,606,000
	Germischte	11	....	....	9,389,000	6,056,000
Italian		10	4,863,000	6,588,000	5,268,000	2,946,000
Norwegian		7	1,312,000	1,924,000	820,000	421,000
Portuguese		9	1,277,000	1,304,000	566,000	288,000
Russian		17	18,025,000	39,863,000	42,381,000	27,396,000
Spanish		13	6,088,000	3,253,000	4,502,000	2,379,000
Swedish	J. Stock	11	4,100,000	9,132,000	4,472,000	2,880,000
Swedish	Mut.	10	....	....	879,000	390,000
Swiss	J. Stock	7	1,810,000	12,602,000	8,310,000	4,933,000
	Mut. and Cantonal	19	....	....	1,863,000	1,019,000
*All other Companies reported		165	32,701,000	70,950,000	40,074,000	19,776,000
All other Companies estimated		101	?	?	75,000,000	37,500,000
Total		1,668	$312,818,000	$1,723,700,000	$786,000,000	$423,678,000

*Includes the following native Companies:—Argentine 44, Algeria 3, British Guiana 2, Brazil 1, Cape Colony 3, Chili 21, Costa Rica 1, Egypt 1, Gibraltar 1, India 4, Japan and China 39, Java 15, Madeira 2, Mexico 6, Panama 1, Paraguay 3, Peru 7, Uruguay 4, Venezuela 1, West Indies 6.