

for the American—the last named having almost half the total life business and just about double the Canadian. In six years thereafter, namely in 1880, the record of the home companies had so changed that their share of the business equalled the American, which had declined while that of the English was stationary. In every year since the Canadian companies have been adding to their total at a more rapid rate than the other groups, for while the British total has risen to 40, and the American to 180, the Canadian exceeds 364 millions. Of course there are more home companies now than then, still they could not have made such an advance but for the feeling of the Canadian people that it was their duty, other things being equal, to give a preference to their own concerns over either British or foreign. And of the existence, indeed the rapid growth, of this feeling we may be sure the home companies have taken due advantage.

The new business of 1904 affords some interesting comparisons with that of the year which immediately preceded it. For example, the seven British companies which write new business—we have already stated that seven of them take renewals only—issued 1,635 policies last year, the aggregate of which was \$3,109,778, where in 1903 they had written 1,706 policies with an aggregate of \$3,132,904. Nevertheless, although their new business fell off, their total at risk increased, and the claims were less.

In the American group of life companies, four of them take no new business. The remaining dozen wrote fewer policies than in 1903, but increased their total of new business as well as the amount in force at the close of the year, while they paid half a million more to policy-holders. Thirty per cent. of their business was industrial.

The Canadian group exhibit increases all along the line, the advance in premiums being more than a million, in new business \$3,882,000, and in net amount in force \$29,000,000.

Analysis is made in the Superintendent's abstract of the payments last year to policy-holders. Comparing the three groups we find that while the Canadian paid back to policy-holders 38.71 per cent. of the amount taken for all premiums, the American group paid out 68.06 per cent., and the British group as much as 88.22 per cent. It is perhaps necessary to explain that there are variations in the nature and proportion of these payments, which consist, most largely of course, of death claims, but also of matured endowments, payments for surrendered policies, payments to annuitants, and dividends declared to policy-holders. The American and British companies, being older, have naturally more endowment business than the Canadian.

Of the net premium income, which includes consideration for annuities, the Canadian companies paid 23.78 per cent. for death claims, the British 56.29 per cent., the American 36.56 per cent. By far the largest proportion of surrenders is in the American group, which also shows the greatest proportion of dividends to policy-holders. Half of all the companies did no business in annuities, but the aggregate of this species of business is small. The amount which these life underwriting companies have paid back to their policy-holders in a year is worthy of remark. It is given on page 42 as \$11,804,653. Over and above the death claims, of almost seven millions (\$6,939,943), and matured endowments of more than two millions (\$2,205,194), there was paid back for surrendered policies, \$1,403,063; in the shape of dividends, \$1,028,751; be-

sides \$227,699 paid out in annuities. All these five items together make up the total of \$11,804,653 which we have given above, and which we remark includes the business done by Canadian companies outside of Canada as well as in it.

Readers who wish to know particulars about any particular company may turn to the table on page 1491 of the present issue, which is an exact reproduction of pages 32 and 33 of the Abstract of Statements submitted to the Government last month.



ENGLISH SCHOOLS AND COLONIAL EDUCATION.

How to treat the young man who has been brought up in the United Kingdom, that he may be made fit for a forward life in British Colonies, is the scope of a paper read before the Royal Colonial Institute recently by Mr. Hubert Reade. It appears to have been inspired by some remarks of Dr. George Parkin, one of which was that the Rhodes scholars, who come up to Oxford from the ends of the earth, whose talk runs on the Canadian forests and prairies, the African veld, the back blocks of Australia, "will act as apostles of colonization." It is pointed out by Mr. Reade that the pressure of economic causes must needs drive the educated Englishman to emigrate in an ever-increasing ratio inasmuch as the Army, Navy, and Civil Service have ceased to be a close preserve for the younger sons of the higher classes; "perhaps 400 out of 3,000 undergraduates now at Oxford and Cambridge will never earn a penny through their degrees; * * * while all the while many a broad acre beyond the seas is crying out to the sons of the Empire."

In the face of this state of things, the speaker tells us, Englishmen are gradually ceasing to take the lead in colonial life, "Germans are out-pacing Englishmen in every land under the Union Jack, the cradles of the Canadian North-West are filling with the children of the Iclander, the Russian, the citizen of the United States." Why is this? The reasons appear to the essayist to be the more practical education of the Germans in commercial subjects and geography * * * and the fact that English education has been given a wholly false direction, divorced from the realities of life by university and competitive examinations little in accordance with the real needs of the student. So much so that "even in that for the Army, *geography plays a wholly subordinate part.*" Mr. Reade could hardly have chosen a stronger illustration of the misfit education he denounces than the sentence last quoted. But Canadians who have to do with newly arrived and so-called educated Englishmen can find illustrations not less absurd of unfitness in them for the life they expect to lead. Some of us have known instances where the untrained and unknowing young emigrant from a home of plenty has had, (alas! for his crude ideals) as Mr. Reade puts it, "in a very liberal sense to go out into the fields to feed swine." How is he, in England, to get more accurate information about how to adapt himself for his future home "in the Colonies" when the Eton Calendar, which gives minute instructions how a lad must proceed if he would go into the civil or the diplomatic service, the navy or the army, the church or the bar, "cannot find space to give the addresses of the agents-general for the colonies in London, or to state how boys intending to emigrate can be trained as agriculturists, miners, or engineers in their new homes?"