

by Mr. Somers, the president, from what is stated to have been "its subsidiary company" the Ontario Securities Company. When the Atlas Loan Company, collapsed Mr. Somers, took over these bonds from the Continental, bought them it is said with a string attached in the form of an agreement that the directors would recoup him any loss these bonds involved. The whole management was designed, says the report, "to save the Continental Life from the loss of business that would be occasioned by the announcement of a bad investment."

Other evidence given reveals what is much to be deplored. "With regard to the formation of the Sterling Bank this year, the evidence showed that the Ontario Securities Company required \$250,000 for to provide the bank with the deposit of \$250,000 which the Bank Act requires a bank to place with the Federal Government before being allowed to transact business.

The whole transaction was most irregular and will probably be passed upon by the Finance Minister. Mixing up the financial dealings of a life company, whose funds are held in trust, with a securities company, a loan company, the promotion of a new bank, cannot be defended. The recent evidence adduced before the Royal Commission on Insurance is calculated to injure the interests of life insurance.

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#### LIFE UNDERWRITERS' ASSOCIATION.

##### BANQUET.

A banquet was tendered by the Life Underwriters' Association of Montreal, to Mr. C. W. Scoval, of Pittsburg, president of the National Association of Life Underwriters at the Place Viger Hotel, on the 23rd inst., 75 members of the association were present. Mr. Homer Vipond, president of the Local Association, occupied the chair. After the toasts to the King and the President of the United States had been duly honoured, Mr. Scoval congratulated the Underwriters' Associations throughout the Dominion. He denounced the rebate evil, and pointed out that the Life Underwriters had in the past done much to degrade their own business. The policy of denouncing other companies when soliciting business was very bad policy. There is no best life company in the world any more than any one individual is the best in the world. Life companies have their own good and bad qualities like individuals; popular opinion is the great force which could stamp out rebating and its associated evils.

The life managers had been in one way and another instrumental in bringing into existence many abuses in life insurance.

The efforts of the Pittsburg Association to drive away rebating had been eminently successful, for the Association in that city had retained the ser-

vices of an eminent lawyer to prosecute, according to the statutes of the State, every case of rebating that could be brought to light. Rebating could be stopped if the Underwriters were in real earnest about it and adopted machinery definitely and distinctly calculated to that end. In twenty-five States of America there are anti-rebate laws which have been brought about through the action of the Local Association. That is how an anti-rebate law ought to be brought about in Canada.

Amongst those present were: Messrs David Burke, general manager Royal-Victoria Life Insurance Co.; B. Hal Brown, general manager London & Lancashire Life; C. Stansfield, superintendent Metropolitan Life; G. H. Allan, local manager Mutual Life of Canada; S. P. Stearns, manager Equitable Life; Walter I. Joseph, manager Union Mutual; T. D. McConkey, superintendent North American Life; — Simpson, local manager North American Life; J. McN. Shaw, local manager Imperial Life; C. J. Alloway, — Felton, New York Life; — Parkes, Sun Life; A. R. Howell, superintendent Life Department Royal Insurance Co.; J. C. Tory, Sun Life; Homer Vipond, New York Life, and many others.

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#### THE LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The 70th annual report of the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company covers what the Chairman at the annual meeting styled, "a memorable period in the history of the company." Unfortunately there was a heavy reverse following the year which was made memorable by the successful results of the business, which were almost unprecedented.

The great conflagrations of 1904 preceded the annual meeting which gave the Chairman the opportunity of saying that, "he did not regard those disasters as unmitigated evils as it checked hostile legislation in foreign countries against fire companies and tended to strengthen confidence in those strong companies which were able to meet claims arising from conflagrations without suffering any serious injury."

In view of the terrible catastrophe at San Francisco this is somewhat optimistic, but the financial strength of the Liverpool & London & Globe protects it from what so substantial a company may regard as serious injury.

It was fortunate that the year preceding the San Francisco conflagration was an especially prosperous one. The fire department had a net premium income of \$10,995,500, and the net losses were \$5,334,260. The account after-providing for expenses shows, without the addition of interest, a