

give any beneficial results. The system in vogue of inspecting every office by the banks' own inspector and his assistants has been proved to be sufficient by the remarkably few failures of Canadian banks and their entire freedom from any form of reproach.

#### CROWN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Crown Life Insurance Company was held at Toronto on 6th inst.

The report states, that policies covering \$1,264,200 were issued during 1904. At the close of the year the company had 1783 policies in force for \$2,985,200 of life insurance. The average amount of these policies is \$1,674.

The cash income for the year from premiums was \$100,917, and \$34,033 was due for deferred and outstanding premiums. The total death claims in 1904 amounted to \$7,000 under six policies, which is stated to have been very much below what was anticipated and provided for. So far as this was the case it indicates commendable care in the selection of risks.

Attention was called by the President, Colonel the Hon. David Tisdale, P.C., K.C., M.P., to the decrease in management expenses in proportion to amount of business transacted, also to the special report made by Mr. Standen, consulting actuary, New York, in which he refers to the company's high average of reserve values of policies. The lapse rate last year is reported to have been only about 10 per cent. of the amount of business in force, which is a good feature.

The liability to policy-holders is represented by a reserve fund of \$151,627 on the basis of the present Government standard of valuation, viz., Hm. 3½ per cent. At the meeting of the Board of Directors after the annual meeting the president, the Hon. Col. Tisdale, P.C., K.C., M.P., the vice-president, Mr. John Charlton, and Mr. G. H. Roberts, managing director were re-elected. The Crown Life is represented in this city by Mr. Stanley Henderson, general manager for Province of Quebec.

#### THE FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF INSURANCE BILL.

##### POLICIES OF INSURANCE TO BE ARTICLES OF COMMERCE.

The Bill introduced in the United States Senate provides for the appointment of a superintendent of insurance as one of the officials of the Federal Government. His work is to be subject to the supervision of the secretary of commerce and labor.

Section 16 reads:

"That policies of insurance are hereby deemed to be articles of commerce and instrumentalities thereof and the transmission by an insurance company from the home office to the insured in other states, territories, or foreign nations than that of the locality of

any sums of money which from time to time shall become due to the insured on said contracts of insurance, are hereby declared and deemed to be transactions in interstate or foreign commerce, as the case may be.

Section 18 reads:

That every corporation transacting interstate or foreign commerce insurance shall within 60 days after the passage of this act and every company hereafter formed shall before engaging in interstate or foreign commerce insurance comply with its provisions.

Section after section sets forth in detail the rules to be observed by insurance companies who in every clause are spoken of as "transacting interstate or foreign commerce insurance."

This act will, if passed, be appealed to in the future to decide the question, whether insurance is, or is not a form of trade?

#### MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.

The Mutual Life of Canada reports the business of 1904 to have been most gratifying in all respects as large gains were made in income, assets and surplus.

The income from premiums was \$1,373,374, and from interest and rents, \$351,944, the total income being \$1,725,308, which exceeds that of 1903 by \$164,238. The volume of new business written exceeds any previous year being 3,452 policies for \$5,048,168, all of which, except \$30,000, was written in the Dominion. The total assurance now in force is \$40,476,970, under 27,742 policies, the net addition for the past year being \$2,889,419.

The payments to policy-holders amounted to \$524,615, consisting of death claims \$220,304, endowments \$160,053, policies purchased \$52,394, annuities \$8,679, surplus \$83,183. The expenses, taxes, etc., amounted to \$300,807, this sum added to amount of \$524,615 paid to policy-holders makes a total of \$825,422, which being deducted from the total income of \$1,725,308 leaves a balance of \$899,886 as excess of income over disbursements in 1904.

The company's assets amount to \$8,220,530. The liabilities consist of \$7,355,172, reserve, 4, 3½ and 3 per cent., \$1,967 reserve on lapsed policies liable to revive or surrender, death claims unadjusted \$28,066, present value of death claims payable in instalments, \$31,123, other items \$32,129. These items make a total of \$7,448,458, which being deducted from the total assets of \$8,220,530, leaves \$772,072 as "net surplus over all liabilities on the company's valuation standard." The net surplus over all liabilities on the Government standard of valuation is \$1,049,400.

The liabilities were again computed on the Combined Experience Table with 4 per cent. interest for all business up to January 1, 1900. From that date to January 1, 1903, the computation was on the In-