

MR. ALEX. BISSETT.

Mr. Alex. Bissett, whose portrait appears on another page, entered the service of the London & Lancashire Life & General Assurance Association in 1884 at the Head Office for Canada in Montreal, and has spent his whole business career of 31 years with the Company. Starting as a junior, he was promoted to his present position as Manager for Canada in 1910 on the retirement of Mr. B. Hal. Brown, having previously been assistant to the latter gentleman for some years.

Mr. Bissett takes a very active interest in all matters pertaining to life insurance and had the signal honour conferred upon him by his colleagues last week, of being appointed President of the Canadian Life Insurance Officers' Association. Coming as it does at a time when the bonds between the Old Country and the Dominion are becoming more closely intertwined, the election of a representative of one of the Old Country offices—which has been intimately connected with the development of Canada under a distinguished Canadian Board of Directors for a period of over fifty years—is especially felicitous.

Mr. Bissett enjoys the full confidence of the head office authorities and that the Company is prospering under his management will be noted by the following figures taken from the Canadian Government Blue Books:—

CANADIAN BUSINESS IN FORCE.		ASSETS IN CANADA.	
1910	\$12,000,000	1910	\$4,750,000
1914	15,400,000	1914	5,700,000
BUSINESS WRITTEN IN CANADA.		INCOME IN CANADA.	
1910	\$ 990,000	1910	\$600,000
1914	2,100,000	1914	730,000

While progressive and vigorous in extending the business of the Company, Mr. Bissett is a conservative underwriter. His long experience and connection with his Company in its field of operations is a guarantee of its continued prosperity in Canada, where the London & Lancashire Life has had an honourable record extending over half a century. Its organisation extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and many of its present field representatives have served the Company nearly forty years.

The Company's Canadian Board of Directors is as follows:—A. J. Dawes, president National Breweries, Limited, director Merchants Bank, director Bell Telephone Company; E. F. Hebden, general manager Merchants Bank; H. B. Mackenzie, general manager Bank of British North America; E. C. Pratt, general manager Molsons Bank. As is well known, the late Lord Strathcona was chairman of the Canadian Board up to the day of his death, and was a director for nearly half a century.

The Great-West Life recently presented the 78th Battalion of Winnipeg with a set of drums and fifes.

BRITISH HOLDINGS OF AMERICAN SECURITIES.

In view of the scheme of mobilisation of American securities held by the insurance companies and others in Great Britain, which is now being worked out in order to provide collateral for further British loans or credits in New York, it is of interest to note the enormous aggregate of the British holdings of American investments. According to an estimate of Sir George Paish, at the close of 1910, British holdings of American securities aggregated about eight and a half billion dollars and at the end of 1914, this aggregate had been increased to about ten and a half billion dollars. American estimates of Europe's—not merely Britain's—liquidation of American securities since the outbreak of war are from two to three billion dollars. Evidently, there are enormous amounts of American securities remaining in Great Britain. Probably also a good many securities other than United States securities, would be acceptable as collateral in New York—some Canadian securities amongst them.

BANK OFFICERS ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

The Journal of the Canadian Bankers' Association gives the interesting information that of the twenty-two chartered banks, eighteen, including large and small institutions, which have kept careful count found at the end of August that, of 13,144 male employees, over eighteen and under forty-five, presumably able to pass the medical requirements, no less than 2,545, or 19.27 per cent., were at that moment upon Imperial service. In some instances, enlistments from certain institutions were one-quarter of the available employees, and it may be fairly assumed, says the Journal, that the ratio has been maintained since and that somewhat similar conditions exist in the banks from which statistics were not obtained. The re-arrangement of affairs necessary to fill the places of the large proportion of trained men represented in these enlistments has been no inconsiderable task, and the financial burden assumed by the banks in this connection alone is not trifling, but they are among the minor results of the willingness of Canada's young manhood, in banking institutions as elsewhere, to go to the defence of the Empire and to offer for it the supreme sacrifice.

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN ACCIDENTS IN OCTOBER, 1915.

Trade or Industry.	Killed.	Injured.	Total.
Agriculture	11	26	37
Fishing and hunting	3		3
Lumbering	4	5	9
Mining	6	24	30
Railway construction	2	6	8
Building Trades	5	24	29
Metal Trades	5	46	51
Woodworking Trades	1	2	3
Clothing	1	1	2
Textile		4	4
Food and tobacco preparation		5	5
Leather	1	2	3
Transportation:—			
Steam Railway Service	13	61	74
Electric Railway Service	1	2	3
Navigation	4	7	11
Miscellaneous	4	14	18
Public Employees	1	9	10
Miscellaneous Skilled Trades	1	13	14
Unskilled Labour	8	11	19
Total	71	262	333