

offices naturally led to much enquiry as to the propriety of so large an increase in the number of offices—the old asserting that they could transact all the business of the country with but a moderate increase in their expenditure. The House of Commons at last appointed a strong Committee to enquire into the working of the Act, and generally to take evidence and suggest some better protection to the public, the amount entrusted to the management of the various Life Companies being very large. The discussion has already been productive of good, elder offices which have been managed in comparative secrecy will find it to their interest to give more information as to their true position, and while some of the younger offices will be compelled to transfer their business to more prosperous Companies, the rest will be forced by the watchfulness of the press to bring their expenditure within more reasonable bounds. It is true that the CANADA was not drawn into this discussion, but the Directors were so far interested in it as to avail themselves of the statistical information thus elicited for the purpose of comparison, for it is not the practice of English offices *voluntarily* to give so much information to the public. A summary was accordingly prepared, giving an analysis of the accounts of British Life Offices, under proper heads, together with an average of the same, and a similar analysis of the accounts of the CANADA. This summary was undertaken chiefly to show the effects of high interest and moderate expenditure in accumulating the funds of a Life Company.

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