

## ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

For very many years without a break the Royal has reported an increase in the premium income of its fire department. The annual report for the year 1917 discloses results surpassing all previous records in this section of the business, so much so, that any reference to the predominant position it has held so long for magnitude of annual premium income in that branch, would be superfluous. Last year net fire premiums amounted to \$24,412,385 showing an unprecedented expansion of \$2,825,625 from the level of \$21,586,760 recorded in the preceding year. Speculation as to the proportions the business may ultimately assume becomes difficult if not altogether impossible to surmise, in view of the ever strengthening vitality of the company's financial position. With this great growth of premiums from natural expansion and a huge organisation in all parts of the world, a very favourable loss experience was enjoyed. Losses called for \$12,351,695 against \$11,078,149 in 1916 a proportion to premiums of 50.59 per cent. compared with 51.3 per cent. in the previous year. Such favourable results indicate a continuance of the Royal's conservative and skilful underwriting for which its management is noted. Expenses showed a slight increase last year, their ratio to premiums of 36.15 per cent. comparing with 35.9 per cent. in 1916 and 37.1 in 1915.

We show in the following table the Company's net fire premiums since the opening of the present century. While the mammoth growth of the Royal's fire premiums are graphically shown, at the same time the normal loss experience during the past seventeen years, has enabled the Company to continue building up reserves of such substantial character as to permit huge conflagration losses to be met with equanimity.

	Net Fire Premiums	Net Losses	Loss Ratio
1901.....	\$12,213,000	\$ 7,225,000	59.0
1902.....	13,448,000	7,038,000	52.3
1903.....	13,862,000	6,749,000	48.6
1904.....	14,578,000	8,443,000	58.0*
1905.....	14,863,000	6,700,000	45.0
1906.....	16,699,000	13,145,000	78.8†
1907.....	17,860,000	8,559,000	47.9
1908.....	17,975,000	9,439,000	52.5
1909.....	18,436,000	9,026,000	48.9
1910.....	18,956,000	9,369,000	49.4
1911.....	19,240,000	10,240,000	53.2
1912.....	19,991,000	10,132,000	50.7
1913.....	20,069,000	10,515,000	52.4
1914.....	20,070,000	11,450,000	57.0
1915.....	20,251,000	10,318,000	50.9
1916.....	21,587,000	11,078,000	51.3
1917.....	24,412,385	12,351,695	50.59

\*Baltimore and Toronto conflagrations.

†San Francisco conflagration.

In addition to its commanding position in regard to fire business, the Royal is also known as an enterprising life office, transacting a business of important dimensions and has regularly maintained for over half a century quinquennial bonuses at the regular rate of \$15 per annum for each \$1000 assured. The life fund which at the beginning of the year stood at \$53,680,708 was increased by \$1,498,737 to \$55,179,445.

In other branches of insurance which include marine, accident, employers' liability, burglary, fidelity, live stock, etc., transacted by this great

composite office with world-wide ramifications, we find eminently satisfactory results.

The Royal's extraordinary progress during 1917 may be judged from the facts that the Company's net premiums from fire, life, accident, marine, employers' liability, etc., amounting to \$46,074,120 exceeded those of 1916 by the large sum of \$4,415,096.

## The Company in Canada

The Royal has been operating in Canada for past 67 years, where it enjoys the high prestige attaching to its fine financial position, under the management of Mr. William Mackay, and assistant manager Mr. J. H. Labelle, which gentlemen have been connected with the Royal in Canada for the past 36 and 35 years respectively. The Royal has occupied its present commanding position in the fire business for many years in Canada, in conjunction with conservative underwriting. Last year the total net cash received for fire premiums (excluding subsidiary companies) amounted to \$1,618,161, as compared with \$1,471,655 in 1916, net losses incurred being \$890,970 a proportion of 55.06 per cent following a ratio of 52.97 per cent in 1916. The Queen, a subsidiary of the Royal, received in net cash premiums last year in Canada \$646,043 incurring net losses of \$394,603, and the Hudson Bay, also controlled by the Royal, report net premiums of \$161,723 net losses incurred being \$101,366.

The Royal's life department in Canada is under the guidance of Mr. R. A. Mannings. Last year satisfactory progress was made, the amount of policies new and taken up was \$674,427, against \$540,670 in 1916. It was reported at the annual meeting that the special examination of the company's life business customarily made at the close of the third year of a quinquennial period has shown the account to be in a strong and healthy position. Captain I. W. Watts has just resumed his duties as Superintendent of Agencies in the life department after active service of nearly 3 years.

The total of the Royal staff who have joined the Forces now numbers 1,670 men, many of whom have won distinction on the battlefield.

## MOUNT ROYAL ASSURANCE COMPANY

It is officially announced this week that the directors of the Mount Royal Assurance Company have appointed Messrs. P. J. Perrin and J. R. Macdonald joint managers of the Company, in succession to Mr. J. E. Clement, whose resignation has already been referred to by The Chronicle. Mr. Perrin has been manager of the Strathcona Fire for the past seven years, and Mr. Macdonald has been connected with the Mount Royal for past ten years; the latter five years he has been Superintendent of the Western department. We understand Mr. Perrin will have charge of the Province of Quebec. Both these gentlemen have to their credit a long experience in the business of fire insurance, and the Company they are now assuming the management of, has heretofore enjoyed the highest reputation for its financial standing, and prompt settlement of losses. Coupled with very capable management and skilful underwriting. Mr. Macdonald has had the advantage of serving under Mr. Clement for a number of years, and becoming thoroughly familiarised with his methods and the organization generally.