

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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To Bankers. In this issue of THE CHRONICLE will be found a review of some of the provisions contained in the amendments to the Bank Act.

Sales and Rumours of Sales. The sale of the Orient to the London and Lancashire, and the rumour of further fusions, amalgamations or absorptions of companies, is simply a bit of testimony to the growing uneasiness of stockholders at the outlook of the fire insurance situation. The large companies with enormous resources and transacting business in every civilized country to which they can gain admission, are, as a rule, able to make some profit even in years of disaster to fire underwriting generally. But a prolonged period of losses is too depressing for the ordinary stockholder in any corporation, and it is not surprising that the list of fire "companies which have been" show signs of being lengthened.

It is a good thing that the old and powerful companies are always ready to buy the business of those who grow weary of the struggle to secure adequate rates, and become disheartened by the monotonous frequency of fires.

The Imperial Limited.

*Prospects awfully sublime,
Strike with astonishment the wonder-
ing eye.*

Thousands upon thousands of transcontinental travellers will sing the praises of "The Imperial Limited," in every corner of the world where globe-trotters are found. Nearly three thousand miles in one hundred hours, and during the flight from ocean to ocean the journey is made purely pleasurable by all the surroundings of luxury and comfort. In travelling we multiply events, and particularly in a railroad journey. The day we come to a place we have long heard and read of— and, in travelling the great Dominion of Canada, we do so continually—it is an era in our lives; and from that moment the very name calls up

a picture. How delightfully, too, does the knowledge flow in upon us and how fast. Looking out from a car window, with eyes and heart open, we are receiving new impressions all day long. Town, river, prairie, mountain! They arrange themselves in our memory, and in what living colours do we recall the dresses, manners, and customs of the people! Our sight—one of the noblest of our senses—fills the mind with ideas of the beautiful, and we return from a trip across the continent better citizens than we went.

Caviling, carping criticism of the cost of constructing our national highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific is silenced by the success of the scheme. What a splendid vindication the Canadian Pacific Railway is of the boldness of those who conceived the project, and what a triumph for its financiers. The engineering skill which made the building of a road through the Rockies possible can only be appreciated by those who have had the privilege of gazing at the thread of steel which winds its way up into cloudland, through almost impregnable passes, and around the lofty snow-tipped mountains.

To this great railway we owe the development of cities, towns, broad farm lands, and innumerable industries, and, as we think of the past and contemplate the future of this great Dominion, we doff our hats to those, living and dead, who induced the people of Canada to approve of the credit and the resources of the country being utilized in extending transport facilities and enlarging the conveniences of personal and commercial traffic so as to bring all sections of the country into communication with each other and with the outside world.

All aboard The Imperial Limited! the quickest route to the Pacific ocean, from whence we may yet see Soldiers of the Queen embarking for the troubled East, the early seat of civilization, to which all eyes are now turned in anxious expectancy of the outbreak of another dreaded war.