

ever, in the long run the effect of excessive taxation of banks is to force their charges upwards and to restrict the spheres of operation. In both cases the country suffers. Cheap credits and widely diffused banking facilities are two things of which Canada must have the advantage, if she is to continue making phenomenal progress.

CANADIAN FIRE RECORD.

(Specially compiled for The Chronicle.)

MONTREAL.—Two motor boats burned, off Dominion Park, August 25.

CALGARY, ALTA.—Main stock building of the Canada Oil Co. Loss, about \$20,000.

EXETER, ONT.—W. Sanders' barn and its contents destroyed, August 17. Origin, lightning.

CAMPBELLTON, N.B.—Two million feet of sawn lumber destroyed at Richards Mill, August 25.

STROME, ALTA.—H. A. Andre's store building destroyed, near Strome. Total loss. Insurance in Caledonian, \$1,000.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, ALTA.—Rev. W. J. Howard's dwelling destroyed. Total loss. Insurance Winnipeg Fire, \$800.

ELMWOOD, MAN.—Union Grain Co.'s elevator practically destroyed. Loss is estimated at approximately \$12,000. Fully covered by insurance.

PHELPHSTON, ONT.—Barns and stables of H. Loftus with season's crops destroyed, August 17. Insurance about one-third of loss. Origin, lightning.

HARDING, MAN.—Elevator owned by the Northern Elevator Co., Ltd. Loss on elevator, \$5,147; on contents (grain), \$3,731. Insurance on elevator, \$2,650 in Springfield and \$2,650 in National.

SOUTH WELLINGTON, B.C.—A number of houses completely destroyed, also the Alexandra hotel, a three-storey building, valued at \$10,000. The total loss is reported about \$40,000, with less than \$10,000 insurance. The fire started from the bush.

PETERBORO, ONT.—Barn and outbuildings of A. Ward, destroyed with contents, August 17. Insurance, \$1,700, about half the loss. W. J. Maher's barn at Druro, destroyed with contents, August 17.

FERNRIDGE, B.C.—Plant and stock of the Fernridge Lumber Co. destroyed. Loss estimated at \$150,000, with \$100,000 insurance, composed of \$72,000 on the mill and \$30,000 on the stock in the yard.

LOWE FARM, MAN.—Elevator owned by the Winnipeg Elevator Co. and C. E. Anderson, and occupied by C. E. Anderson. Loss on building, \$3,810. Insurance, \$2,650 in Springfield, and \$2,650 in National.

COMPEER, ALTA.—General store owned and occupied by Mason and Wulff. Loss on building, 510; on contents, \$1,216; on fixtures, \$73.44; on household furniture, \$121.50. Insurance on building, \$750; on contents, \$2,250; on fixtures, \$150; on furniture, \$75, all in Royal. Fire supposed to have been caused by kerosene lamp.

HUGE DEPRECIATION IN SECURITIES.

The London Bankers' Magazine, declares that from July 20 to July 30, the depreciation in 387 representatives securities dealt in on the London Stock Exchange amounted to £188,000,000, the fall being greatest in British and foreign funds.

WHERE TIMES ARE REALLY BETTER.

One of the things indicating in these days of stress and uncertainty, of moratoria, banking and trade restrictions and complications due to the European war, the closing of the Stock Exchanges of the world and the suspension or interruption of communication that times are really better than they were of so many year ago, remarks an American contemporary, is the fact that it has occurred to no inexperienced or notoriety seeking insurance commissioner to demand financial statements, details of congested area liability, and the like from the domestic companies and the various foreign ones which have been welcomed and admitted to do business in the United States.

Of course nothing of this sort would be expected from the older and more experienced commissioners or from insurance departments administered with that practical breadth of view characterising New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and many other States, but it is a bit surprising that no McNall of unsavory memory, eager for the limelight and longing to harass his natural prey, the insurance companies, whose interests, as well as those of the public, he is supposed to conserve, has yet jumped to the fore with all sorts of vexatious inquiries and panic-breeding requirements.

Perhaps the wise and universally commended attitude of the New York State Superintendent of Insurance, following the San Francisco catastrophe of 1906, in refusing for months, even on the behest of the Governor himself, to ask for statements, has not been forgotten.

WANTED.

A man having over 20 years experience in Fire Underwriting in this Province, office and field work, and who controls a fair amount of good business, is willing to TAKE CHARGE of a FIRE INSURANCE OFFICE or FRENCH DEPARTMENT. Address: C. A., The Chronicle, Montreal.

WANTED.

One having very much experience in Fire Insurance in the Province of Quebec and who can afford to increase the business of any good Company through the agents that he controls, seeks appointment as SUPERINTENDENT OF AGENCIES. Address: X. Y. Z., The Chronicle, Montreal.

WANTED.

A gentlemen having several years experience in Fire Insurance, and controlling some good agents in Montreal and the Province, desires appointment as INSPECTOR or CHIEF CLERK. Address, J. P., c/o The Chronicle, Montreal.