amount paid for policy claims, dividends and surrender values in 1902 was $12,362,164, which, being deducted from the income, left a balance of $30,974,119.

The growth of the Metropolitan is shown by following comparisons of 10-year period :—

	1902.	1892.	1882.
	$	$	$
Income for year.......	43,336,284	13,307,811	1,354,267
Assets................	89,180,908	16,506,282	2,002,464
Surplus	10,363,124	3,674,516	379,907
Number of policies in force..............	No. 6,976,651	No. 2,719,860	No. 341,632

If the daily average of the Company's business is analysed it will give the following results :—

The average number of claims paid per day in 1902 was..................................	321	per day
The average number of policies issued........	6,938	"
The average amount of New Insurance written	$1,364,381	"
The average amount paid to policyholders and addition to Reserve........................	87,432	"
The average Increase in Assets................	47,422	"

The administration of conducting a business of such dimensions with such ramifications and diversities of interests all over this continent calls for a higher degree of managerial skill and financial talent than suffice for the government of many a State or nation. It seems as though opportunities and needs for men of exceptional gifts had the power of calling them into existence, certainly they have the magnetic force of drawing men out into prominence who have the special gifts demanded by the situation. In Mr. John R. Hegeman, the President, and Mr. Haley Fiske, Vice President of the Metropolitan Life, the Company has officers of exceptional ability as its remarkable progress under their administration proves. In this city the Metropolitan has made considerable accessions to its business in recent years.

CANADA ACCIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY.

At the Annual Meeting of the above prosperous Company held on 18th inst., a highly gratifying statement was laid before the shareholders. The net premium income last year was $43,241, showing an increase over 1901 of $1,161. The claims paid and outstanding amounted to $8,288, the loss ratio being 19.16 per cent. of the premium income. After provision was made for outstanding claims and other contingencies there was a balance left at credit of Profit and Loss of $18,118. After laying aside $30,195 for reserve of unearned premiums the surplus of assets over all liabilities amounted to $37,584, which, proportionately to the business, is exceptionally large.

The President of the Canada Accident Company is Mr. R. Wilson-Smith, Vice-President, Honorable A. Desjardins, and the other directors, Messrs. J. P Cleghorn, S. H. Ewing, Montreal, and Honorable S. C. Wood, and J. J. Kenny, Toronto.

HOME LIFE ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

A report was presented to the shareholders of the above Company at the Annual Meeting held at Toronto on 10th inst., which was received with much satisfaction, evidencing as it does growth in extent of business and resources. The applications for new insurance amounted to $,471,500, out of which there was $1,371,000 issued in new policies, the balance of $100,500 being either declined or held for consideration. The new insurance was double the amount written in 1901. The cash premiums received amounted to $93,654 and from interest $13,489, making a gross income of $107,143. The death claims were $23,000, a sum which is stated to be "well within the mortality provided for." The insurance in force at close of 1902 was $3,267,107. The assets, including securities held $100,723, loans on policies, $178,100, office building $100,000, cash on hand, $31,103, premiums, etc., due, and sundries, amount to a total of $453,692, against which the liabilities are, re-insurance reserve on basis of Government standard 3½ per cent. Hm. $270,651, other liabilities, $10,224, making a total of $280,875 which, being deducted from the gross assets of $453,692 leaves a surplus on policyholders' account of $172,817. The assets and capital subscribed and subject to be called up amount to $11,247,505, which forms a security for policyholders.

FIRE AT QUEBEC.

By the fire which occurred on the 17th instant, at Nos. 107, 109, 113 and 115 Mountain Hill, Quebec, the following companies are interested:—

On 109 and 113 Mountain Street—

Caledonian..	$13,000
Insurance Co. of N. A.	12,500
Alliance..	5,000
Commercial Union..	5,000
Atlas..	5,000
National of Ireland..	2,500
Phoenix, of Hartford..	2,500
Ottawa Fire..	1,000
Total loss..	$46,500

On 115 Mountain Street (Bldg.)—

Guardian..	$2,000
Phoenix, of Hartford	2,000
	$4,000

Loss about $1,500.

On 5 and 7 Sault-au-Matelot Street—

Western	$2,500
Manchester..	2,500
Total loss	$5,000