

\$1,000 of current risk \$16.73 terminated in natural course and \$74.81 by surrender and lapse, making a total of \$91.54. In the year 1903 these rates were \$16.71 and \$72.58 respectively, making a total of

\$89.29, thus giving a difference of \$2.25 for each \$1,000 at risk.

The following table exhibits the rates for the last six years:—

TERMINATED out of each \$1,000 current risk.

	Naturally.				Surrender and Lapse.							
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Canadian companies.....	13 74	13 80	14 40	12 91	13 27	13 58	64 94	59 29	58 34	57 45	61 58	62 79
British ".....	21 76	23 46	22 90	20 81	28 51	30 06	35 37	37 93	48 01	35 23	37 13	38 37
American ".....	28 09	25 69	24 62	33 11	20 39	19 72	88 43	96 20	102 22	120 85	102 33	106 51

The total termination amounts to about 55.65 per cent. of the amount of new policies. The actual amounts of termination were distributed as follows:—

DEATH RATE.

In the calculation of the death rate this year, as in previous years, the mean number of policies in force and the number of policies terminated by death during the year have been admitted as approximations to the mean number of lives exposed to risk and the number of deaths during the year respectively. It is believed that the results arrived at represent the actual mortality among insured lives in Canada as accurately as can be gathered from the returns of the companies.

	Naturally.	Surrender and Lapse.
	\$	\$
Canadian companies.....	4,960,451	22,929,264
British ".....	1,313,118	1,676,287
American ".....	3,722,005	20,103,485
Total.....	9,995,574	44,709,036

	1904.		1903.	1902.	1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	18952
	Number of lives exposed to risk.	Number of deaths.	Death rate.								
Active companies....	631,338	6,954	11.015	10.998	10.301	11.213	11.226	10.733	10.549	10.907	10.095
Assessment companies.	116,551	941	8.074	7.103	8.559	8.314	7.985	7.352	7.818	7.507	6.798
Retired companies....	3,281	154	46.930	34.269	39.221	40.544	40.182	35.733	33.560	26.747	32.969
Total.....	751,170	8,049	10.715	10.492	10.177	10.850	10.770	10.197	10.113	10.265	9.261

THE BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

REPORT FOR HALF-YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1905.

The Bank of British North America was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1836, since which period, for 69 years, it has held a highly honourable position amongst the banks of Canada, and enjoyed a high reputation in business and financial circles both here and in the Imperial metropolises.

During that long period it has ever maintained a policy inspired by the soundest, the most enlightened principles of banking. While liberal to customers in accommodation and terms it has ever sought to safeguard their best interests and to protect their credit by watching over their business transactions with the view to restraining any ventures, or operations liable to develop trouble. To aid in promoting legitimate business on prudential lines has been the bank's endeavour.

No year has passed without paying a dividend which for close upon 70 years has averaged over six per cent. In that period a reserve fund has been built up amounting to \$2,044,000.

The Bank of British North America has been a training school for young bankers, many of those who have had the advantage of instruction and ex-

perience in its service having risen to honourable positions in the financial world.

This old bank has set all public institutions a most commendable example by establishing and maintaining two funds for the benefit of its staff, one being the "Officers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund," and the other the "Officers' Pension Fund," in aid of which there have been made very handsome appropriations.

The report for the half-year up to 30th June last, showed the net profits to have been \$165,580. To this sum \$178,073 being added which was brought forward from 31st December, 1904, made \$343,653. The dividend paid in April last, took \$146,000, the sum of \$2,500 was transferred to Officers', Widows' and Orphan's Fund, and \$2,896 to Officers' Pension Fund. These appropriations together amounted to \$151,396, which being deducted from the amount for distribution left \$192,257 available for the October dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum.

The balance to be carried forward when the October dividend has been paid will be \$46,257.

Since the last report a branch has been opened at Hedley, British Columbia, and since the end of the last half-year branches have been opened at