

FIRE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN THE SOUTH was the most profitable last year of any for ten years. The average loss ratio seems likely to range between 50 and 55 per cent. The leading British companies made an excellent record in the South in 1900, and the Western & British America came out satisfactorily. Why should there have been such a difference between the fire loss of the Southern and that of the Northern States?

NEW YORK LIFE'S SYSTEM.—It is stated by the "Commercial Bulletin" that the losses at cashiers' offices and agencies in the United States of the New York Life Insurance Company by defalcations and embezzlements during 1900 will not exceed \$500. The cashiers are required to mail to the home offices each day a statement of the bank balances which are all in the name of the company, and the system of checks is said to be so perfect, that stealing is absolutely impossible.

**THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY**  
OF THE UNITED STATES.

Outstanding Assurance, Dec. 31, 1899	\$1,054,416,422.00
Assurance applied for in 1899	237,356,610.00
Examined and Declined	34,054,778.00
New Assurance Issued,	203,301,832.00
Income	53,878,200.55
Assets, Dec. 31, 1899	280,191,286.80
Assurance Fund (\$216,384,975.00) and all other Liabilities (\$2,688,834.03)	219,073,809.03
Surplus	61,117,477.77
Paid Policyholders in 1899	24,107,541.44

JAMES W. ALEXANDER, President  
JAMES H. HYDE, V. P.

MONTREAL OFFICE: 157 St. James Street  
S. P. STEARNS, Manager.

TORONTO OFFICE: 90 Yonge Street  
ALFRED. H. ELLIS, Manager

A SERIOUS FIRE AT CALAIS arose from a spirit-lamp being upset. The "Review," calls attention to the danger in connection with these articles. It is too often the habit of travelers, ladies, of course, to use spirit lamps when traveling, with the object of making tea in hotel bedrooms. Given loose drapery and the accidental upsetting of the spirit lamp or even the running over thereof, by reason of its being too full, and there follows a first-class hotel fire. Landlords are quite justified in expelling guests who take such liberties.

THE NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY of Canada reports 1900 to have been a very satisfactory year. The proposals received numbered 888 for \$1,416,000 of insurance. The company issued 822 policies for \$1,359,500, and the total premium income amounted to \$62,605, being a net gain of \$39,651 in past year. The life policies in force at close of 1900 amounted to \$1,792,500. It is evident that the managing director, Mr. R. H. Matson, and Secretary Sparling are not letting the grass grow under their feet. The Company starts the new century with a nest egg of \$94,000 in applications sent in during last year.

**The Canadian Pacific Railway Company**

The Montreal Register of the Common Stock of the Company will be re-opened on Tuesday the Fifth February next, on and after which date transfers may be made at the Office of the Secretary of the Company, Windsor Street. Rules governing transfers and the discharge of stock from the New York and London Registers to Montreal, and vice versa, may be had on application to the undersigned.

**CHARLES DRINKWATER,**  
Secretary.

MONTREAL, 22nd January, 1901.

**WANTED.**—French Inspector to take charge of the French department of a Life Insurance Company. Must have had experience. Must be energetic and ambitious. The right man will have plenty of hard work, and will be well paid.

Address: Superintendent of Agencies,  
**GREAT WEST LIFE ASSURANCE CO.,**  
Mechanics Institute Building,  
MONTREAL.

**Royal Insurance Co.**  
**... Queen Insurance Co.**  
**ABSOLUTE SECURITY**  
GEORGE SIMPSON, Manager      WM. MACKAY, Asst. Manager