

wholesale merchants and private lenders on mortgage have been taught a sharp lesson by the loans being called in, which were secured, in part, by insurance, and new ones and renewals declined.

Were a conflagration to occur in Arkansas, or a series of extensive fires, the great bulk of the business community where such disasters occurred and large numbers of their creditors elsewhere would be ruined.

What has given rise to this exasperating, this dangerous situation?

It is almost incredible that the people of Arkansas have brought the business interests of their State into jeopardy simply because they disapprove of the insurance companies acting in concert by fixing a standard of rates based upon their combined experience. They were so carried away, as the saying is, by their prejudice in this respect as to induce the State Legislative to pass an act which rendered it unlawful for any insurance company to transact business in that State if such company was associated with other companies in arranging the terms of its business.

The operation of that irrational law is creating great alarm; extensive failures have already occurred owing to credit having been withdrawn when insurance ceased, and apprehensions are felt that the whole business interests of Arkansas are in imminent danger.

THE CANADA LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

We have received a copy of a booklet issued by the Canada Life Assurance Company entitled—"They are Satisfied." This publication contains copies of letters received in the month of April last, from its policy-holders in Canada, the United States, West Indies and Newfoundland acknowledging the receipt of the notices of "Tontine and Ordinary Results," which must be gratifying to the company, as they one and all express satisfaction at the results attained and appreciation of the management which produced such results.

The booklet should be a very valuable aid to the company's agents in securing new answers.

THE UNION MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Union Mutual Life Insurance Company of Portland, Me., notwithstanding the unusual attention and criticisms which have been given to life assurance generally for some months past, has without any extra effort written an unusually large amount of business this year. We reiterate the hope expressed by one of the highest officials connected with this conservative company, to the effect that the present agitation may result in the adoption of such methods as will enable all companies to procure their business at a decreased ratio cost.

CANADA'S IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1895-1904.

VERY LARGE INCREASES OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, BOTH MUCH MORE THAN DOUBLED; INCREASE IN BRITISH IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, ALSO OF UNITED STATES TRADE, THEIR RESPECTIVE AMOUNTS AND PROPORTION TO CANADA'S TOTAL FOREIGN TRADE, A REMARKABLE EXHIBIT OF TRADE EXPANSION IN 10 YEARS.

Considerable attention is being paid to the course of Canadian trade, more especially in regard to the several amounts of our imports from Great Britain and the United States. The following figures are those given by the Department of Trade and Commerce which are to be fully relied upon, whereas statistics which are given to prove some political opinion or fiscal theory are usually so manipulated as to be of doubtful authenticity.

IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND UNITED STATES.

Year.	Imports from Great Britain.		Imports from United States.	
	Dutiable.	Free.	Dutiable.	Free.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1904	44,939,829	16,784,787	77,543,790	65,466,798
1903	42,210,165	16,582,873	68,538,323	60,251,914
1902	35,062,564	13,960,162	60,181,808	54,562,888
1901	31,701,554	11,118,341	53,600,278	53,549,047
1900	31,561,756	12,718,227	53,897,561	48,182,616
1899	27,521,508	9,409,815	44,471,824	43,995,349
1898	22,556,479	9,486,982	38,063,960	36,760,963
1897	20,217,422	9,183,766	30,482,509	26,540,833
1896	24,366,179	8,458,320	29,101,646	24,427,744
1895	23,311,911	7,747,421	25,795,538	24,338,466

EXPORTS TO GREAT BRITAIN AND UNITED STATES.

Year.	Exports to Great Britain.		Exports to United States.	
	Dutiable.	Free.	Dutiable.	Free.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
1904	117,591,376	70,713,053	211,055,675	225,229,761
1903	131,202,098	71,209,969	225,229,761	209,970,864
1902	117,318,221	69,562,232	209,970,864	194,509,143
1901	105,528,956	70,406,841	177,776,044	150,321,350
1900	107,735,968	54,501,394	154,901,815	142,985,490
1899	99,086,981	36,562,840	130,510,573	112,985,490
1898	104,998,818	36,454,507	106,013,394	
1897	77,227,502	41,933,792		
1896	66,689,253	36,421,168		
1895	61,856,990	34,164,567		

PERCENTAGES OF IMPORTS FROM

Year.	GREAT BRITAIN.			UNITED STATES.		
	Dutiable to Total.	Free to Total.	Total Imports to Total.	Dutiable to Total.	Free to Total.	Total U. S. Imports to Total.
	%	%	%	%	%	%
1904	30.18	17.73	25.34	52.07	69.14	58.71
1903	30.85	18.84	26.15	50.10	68.46	57.29
1902	29.54	17.94	24.95	50.72	70.11	58.40
1901	29.92	15.50	24.10	50.58	74.66	60.30
1900	30.25	18.66	25.66	51.65	70.69	59.17
1899	30.77	15.70	24.72	49.73	73.43	59.24
1898	30.23	18.35	25.36	51.00	71.13	59.24
1897	30.53	22.73	27.58	46.03	65.69	53.48
1896	36.24	22.19	31.15	43.28	64.07	50.80
1895	39.81	18.39	30.85	44.05	57.79	49.84

In the last 10 years the dutiable imports from Great Britain have risen from \$23,311,911 to \$44,939,829, the free imports from \$7,747,421 to \$16,784,787, and the total imports from Great Britain from \$31,059,332 to \$61,724,616, or a fraction short of 100 per cent, that is they have doubled since 1895.

In the same period the dutiable imports from the