losses incurred to premiums received was 30.12 p.c. compared with 30.71 p.c. on the business of 1905. The stock companies of other states wrote $721,000,000 of fire and tornado business in Ohio; premiums received $8,284,000, losses incurred $3,340,000; ratio of losses to premiums 40.32 p.c., as compared with 34.74 p.c. in 1905. All stock companies have at risk in Ohio, fire and tornado, a total of over $1,223,000,000.

District of Columbia Report.

Part I. of the fourth annual insurance report of the District of Columbia, dealing with life and accident companies, is mentioned elsewhere in this issue. Part II., which has more recently arrived, covers fire and marine companies in detail for the year ending December 31, 1905, with a summary of current events pertaining to the business up to the end of the fiscal year June 30, 1906.

The Manual of Statistics.

The Manual of Statistics for 1907, is the twenty-ninth annual issue of this standard reference publication. It contains in concise form valuable information regarding railroad and industrial corporations of the United States and Canada, government securities, mining stocks and grain and cotton stocks. In fact its 1,064 pages give in compact form an invaluable fund of data and statistics. Its utility is enhanced by an arrangement rendering reference to the contents of any section exceedingly easy. The present edition devotes much attention to the newer mining companies, a class of securities on which full and accurate information is often difficult to obtain. It gives throughout evidence of careful compilation and is a volume which investors cannot afford to be without. It is published by The Manual of Statistics Company, 20 Vesey Street, New York.

PROPER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

In a recent issue of THE CHRONICLE there appeared the first four recommendations of the new building code prepared by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The remaining six paragraphs cover the following points:

Fifth.—Require all chimneys to be built with brick walls not less than eight inches in thickness, continuously lined on the inside with well burnt clay or terra cotta pipe. Chimneys for high-pressure boilers shall have brick walls not less than twelve inches in thickness, the inside four inches of which shall be fire brick laid in fire mortar for a distance of twenty-five feet in any direction from the source of heat. All smoke flues which are heated to a high temperature by smelting furnaces, steam boilers and similar apparatus, shall be built with double walls of suitable thickness, with an air space between the walls, the inside four inches to be of fire brick laid in fire mortar for a distance of not less than twenty-five feet in any direction from the source of heat.

All pipes for hot air should be at least two inches from woodwork, and all steam pipes should be not less than one inch from wood-work.

Sixth.—Special attention should be given to large area buildings and buildings of excessive height. The necessity of avoiding, as far as possible, vertical openings in such buildings, particularly when occupied for mercantile and manufacturing purposes, is apparent. Experience has shown that these buildings are dangerous as conflagration breeders.

Seventh.—Provide for the proper care and removal of ashes and all rubbish and dirt from buildings, especially from cellars, attics and yards. Authority should be given the Chief of the Fire Department to enforce this regulation and the regulation covering the handling and storage of explosives.

Eighth.—Require all electric wiring to be installed in compliance with the rules and regulations of the National Electrical Code.

Ninth.—Install suitable internal appliances for extinguishing fires, viz. automatic sprinklers, stand-pipe and hose, chemical fire extinguishers and fire pails.

Tenth.—Examination of the Fire Department and Public Water Works should be made at fixed intervals by the city authorities. Many of our cities have outgrown their public facilities for extinguishing fires and the authorities should make careful study of this question with a view to extending the fire department and water supply service, including water mains and hydrants of modern types, not only making them adequate for present necessities, but also providing for future demands.

GENERAL ANIMALS INSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.

The General Animals' Insurance Company of Canada is being organized by special Dominion charter with an authorized capital of $1,000,000. Subscriptions are being invited for $100,000, 30 p.c. of which will be called up; 15 p.c. cash on allotment of stock, and 15 p.c. in four months. The object of the company is to protect live stock. There are several companies of a similar character in Europe which seem to transact a profitable business. Canada should offer good prospects for a company of this description.

The head office will be in the Guardian building, Montreal. The President of the company is Mr. Albert P. Frigon, Vice-President, Mr. L. A. D'Armour, V.S., purchasing agent for the fire department, Montreal.

A PETITION OPPOSING the confirmation of the sale of the Toledo Railways & Terminal Company was filed in the United States Circuit Court Tuesday by the Ohio Savings Bank & Trust Company. It alleges that J. Pierpont Morgan and his business allies entered into a conspiracy when the Terminal road was sold, and that a committee representing the bondholders bought the road for $2,000,000. It further charges that the creditors were prevented from bidding on the road by a prearranged plan of Morgan and his allies.