

Committee of One Hundred on the National Health for the establishment of a national bureau of health in the United States. A special number of *The Metropolitan* on the subject was issued, with articles by Dr. Wiley, of the Federal Health Board, Miss Mabel Boardman, Dr. Kober and others. The number contained a blank coupon by which policyholders were asked to communicate with their Congressmen. Four million copies of this magazine were circulated, with the result that for weeks members of Congress were deluged with communications from policyholders, asking for the establishment of a federal bureau. Great interest was roused among the members of Congress on the subject. Similar action, though not so widespread, was taken by the company's superintendents in behalf of the Esch Bill, imposing a prohibitive tax on the use of white phosphorus in matches.

After a careful study of the system in force in Belgium and Germany, the company made arrangements with a realty company to erect homes in a suburban part of the Borough of Brooklyn under a system by which the company loans about 60 per cent. of the cost on first mortgage, the realty company loans most of the balance on second mortgage and pays for term insurance on the life of the borrower for an annually decreasing amount equal to the outstanding mortgages. The result of the arrangement is that the purchaser obtains a home on easy payments and is protected against death by insurance at the lowest cost.

#### CONCLUSION.

All of the work that I have described in this paper has been done under a sense of responsibility to the workingmen of the United States and Canada. We have felt that the fact that 11,000,000 of industrial policies are in force in the United States and 500,000 in Canada on the lives of workmen and their families imposes a responsibility on the company beyond the mere fulfilling of its contracts. Trusted by such an enormous number of working people, the company has felt that it ought to do all that is possible within the limits of its powers for the welfare of the workingmen, especially in regard to life and health. As I have said, we believe we have the support in this work of public opinion and of the commissioners of insurance. The late Superintendent of Insurance of New York, after an exhaustive examination of the company lasting fifteen months, showed the greatest enthusiasm for the social work of the company, as well as his approval of its insurance work. At the recent convention of Insurance Commissioners in Spokane the same sentiment was voiced by others. I feel sure that all companies will meet with sympathetic co-operation from supervising officials in any work they feel they can properly do along the line of conservation of life and health.

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The Dominion Securities Corporation are offering at par and interest \$1,250,000 6 p.c. first mortgage 15-year sinking fund gold bonds in the Gordon, Ironside and Fares Company, Ltd., packers, ranchers and provisioners, of Winnipeg, Man. These bonds, which are due July 1, 1927, are redeemable as a whole at 105 and accrued interest on any interest date on six weeks' prior notice, or annually for Sinking Fund drawings, beginning July 1st, 1913. Total assets are \$4,020,988 and average annual net earnings for three years ending February 28, 1912, \$278,189, or nearly four times the interest on bonds now issued.

#### THE THEORY OF STEAM BOILER INSURANCE.

(Address by Lyman B. Brainerd, President of the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn.)

Steam boiler insurance was first written in the United States in 1867, and since that time it has been conducted continuously, and its development has been pushed by competition with an energy and a propelling force akin to that of steam, and under a working pressure much higher than is considered safe by those at present engaged in it. In point of age it is the senior line of the casualty group, but when considered from the standpoint of volume, it is one of the smaller of the casualty lines.

The total amount collected last year in premiums throughout the United States amounted to only \$2,303,104, and when I state that this sum was divided between no less than thirty-five companies, you will understand my meaning in stating that its development has been pushed by competition with a force characteristic of steam. That explosions have occurred from pressures other than steam should surprise no one; that so few have occurred should surprise everybody cognizant of the facts.

Notwithstanding its age, I ask you to specially note that its present position as one of the component lines of insurance and its present volume of premiums secured, represent the results of an enforced development extending over a period of forty-six years, and quite accurately portrays the limits of the possibilities of its further development. The underlying principle on which steam boiler insurance is founded is that of conservation—the undertaking, so far as human agency is competent, to protect property and life from destruction and injury by maintaining an intelligent mechanical supervision and a regular periodical inspection service, and so prevent the explosion of boilers. It is this feature that distinguishes steam boiler insurance from other lines of insurance, and places it in a class by itself. It is this feature also that makes steam boiler insurance so much more expensive to conduct than other lines of insurance, as in this age of large combinations and concentration of control, to properly conduct this line of insurance requires an organization with as complete inspection facilities throughout the remote States of the Union as in the industrial centres of New England, and such an extended organization can be maintained only at great expense.

While many companies are writing multiple lines of insurance the steam boiler line in itself is multiple with respect to service rendered and its breadth of coverage extended.

It is, however, unfortunate that we are unable to accurately determine and definitely set forth in dollars and cents the exact protective value to an assured of the mechanical supervision and the inspection service maintained by companies writing this line of insurance. If this could be done I am convinced that it would clearly establish the fact that no line of insurance is contributing so much for so little as is the steam boiler line.

#### FACTS ASCERTAINED BY INSPECTION.

Speaking broadly, this inspection service establishes the fact that an average of one boiler in every 170 boilers is physically unsound and unsafe to operate, and is condemned; that on an average one boiler in every seven is found to possess dangerous defects