

ONLY EIGHT MINES shipped from Cobalt last week, but their total was large. The aggregate weight of the week's shipments was 1,198,750 pounds, or 594.37 tons, compared with 639.27 tons the week before.

"SOO" RAILWAY net earnings for the year ending June 30, were \$5,511,000, compared with \$4,393,000; and the percentage of expenses to earnings is 56.3, against 61.8 last year.

CANADA has begun to draw gold from New York in considerable quantities. This drain in addition to outgo to Japan and Argentine will bring the export total up to a high figure.

THE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT has awarded contracts for two wagon roads north of the Height of Land; one a seven mile road east from Matheson, and one a nine mile road north from Cochrane.

A branch of the Traders Bank of Canada has been opened at Gleichen, Alta. Mr. J. F. Newton, formerly accountant at Calgary, has been appointed manager.

THE ILLINOIS TRACTION COMPANY has purchased the Electric Lighting Company of Des Moines, Iowa, which has a population exceeding 85,000.

TWIN CITY EARNINGS for June were \$593,101 gross and \$332,220 net—showing gains of 7.15 per cent. and 17.19 per cent. respectively over June 1908.

CLOSING WHEAT PRICES at Winnipeg, yesterday were \$1.10 for August, 98 1-2c for October and 94 3-8c for December delivery.

THE BLACK LAKE CONSOLIDATED Asbestos Company, the new merger, has taken over the Black Lake Chrome & Asbestos Company.

DULUTH-SUPERIOR TRACTION common stock was "called" on the Montreal Exchange for the first time this week.

MR. C. F. SMITH has been appointed director of the Dominion Textile Company, Limited.

A CARRIAGE COMPANY combination is said to be the latest Canadian merger under way.

LACOMBE, Alta., has been visited by a serious fire causing \$25,000 loss or over.

RE FIRE AT HANLAN'S POINT, TORONTO.

Owing to an error in information received, THE CHRONICLE of a week ago gave the insurance loss on "Figure 8 and Old Mill," at Hanlan's Point, as being \$13,000, of which the Anglo-American was stated to have carried \$6,500. Later information shows that the Anglo-American had no line on this risk, the total insurance of \$6,500 being made up as follows: Queen, \$3,000; Richmond and Drummond, \$1,000; Rimouski, \$1,000; York, \$500; Montreal-Canada, \$1,000.

Deputy Chief Noble of the Toronto fire department gave evidence which showed that the water pressure at the Island was totally insufficient. Much of the property could have been saved had there been more pressure and better appliances, said the Deputy Chief. He was also of the opinion that a fully-equipped fire department should be installed on the Island. It is to be hoped that a fire-tug will be a feature of the harbour in the near future.

Insurance Items.

SEVENTY-FIVE EMPTY BOX CARS were in danger of being consumed by a fire which destroyed a half dozen on the guard pier near Victoria Bridge, on Tuesday evening.

Nothing could be done in the way of quenching the flames, as it was impossible to get a supply of water. Though the pier is practically on the St. Lawrence, it was a case "of water, water everywhere," but not a drop for use. The nearest hydrant is half a mile away, and the guard pier is too narrow to accommodate a fire engine. All that could be done was to remove the undamaged cars.

MR. BERTRAM E. HARDS, Assistant Manager for Canada of the Guardian Assurance Co., arrived in Montreal on the 14th inst. from England, where he has been spending a three months' holiday. This was his first visit to the old country, since his arrival in Canada, five years ago. His holiday was most enjoyable, though weather conditions were very unfavourable, the summer having been the worst experienced in England for many years. Mr. Hards states that a very noticeable feature in London is the tremendous increase in motor traffic.

THE ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY, of which Lord Desborough is president, has now a Montreal branch, which was formed this week at the Y.M.C.A. at the close of a most valuable lecture on life saving by Mr. William Henry, chief secretary of the parent society. It is likely that instruction in the art of life saving may in future be given to Montreal police. Mr. Henry stated that the London police force belonged to the society, and that a knowledge of life-saving was practically a *sine qua non* for admission to the Liverpool police force.

THE METROPOLITAN LIFE'S APPLICATION for authority to establish a tuberculosis sanitarium for policyholders and employees, has been denied by Superintendent Hotchkiss, of New York State. The Superintendent based his ruling on the insurance laws which restrict the real estate holdings of a life insurance company to such property as may be necessary for the transaction of its regular business.

FIRE INSURANCE is a new comer to the Canadian field of insurance journalism. It is published by W. B. Campbell, of Toronto, proprietor also of Office and Field. The new journal promises to be interesting in matter and is attractive typographically. "Reduction of fire waste" is its watchword—a word that may well be passed along.

MR. F. SPARKLING, secretary of the National Life of Canada, was in the city this week. Mr. Sparkling reports business generally as being most favourable. The Montreal office, under Mr. J. P. Oram, is making steady increases in business.

COBourg, ONT., suffered last week from one of the most disastrous fires that has visited it in years—damage of about \$50,000 having been done. Full particulars of insurance are not yet obtainable.

PENALTIES amounting to the trifling sum of \$65,000,000 are demanded by the State of Arkansas, from 65 insurance companies for alleged violation of the State's anti-trust laws.

A FIRE LOSS OF \$25,000 is reported from Little Britain, Ont., near Lindsay. Assistance was sent by the Toronto Fire Brigade.