

The facilities afforded by each of the suggested points would have to be well examined, that is, grades, waterways and other interests of a timely local nature. Representations were being continually made to the company by different municipalities, and they had to be considered. The question of branches and tapping lines was also a serious one.

INSURANCE NEWS.

The bill before the Private Bills Committee of the Dominion Parliament to authorize an enlargement of the directorate of the Canada Life has been withdrawn.

Secretary Frank F. Holmes announces that the annual convention of the National Association of Local Fire Insurance Agents will be held at St. Louis, October 18th to 21st. The programme will be announced at a later date.

We learn that marine insurance losses on the lakes this season have been quite small, less than for many years, and a large proportion of those which have occurred were due to fire. The chief loss up to date affecting the companies has been the "Chilian."

Editor Hitchcock, of the Insurance Field, is receiving attention from the burglary insurance solicitors. While sitting on his porch with his family the other evening sneak thieves entered his residence through the rear and got away with \$800 worth of money, jewellery and valuables.

Toronto's city engineer has more than once pointed to the lack of water in the district in the neighborhood of the Dundas Street bridges, which has in recent years become the home of several factories. We would ask, has anything been done to remedy this lack of water in the north-west district for fire protection purposes?

A sensible girl to her beau
Uttered this very timely bon meau:
If your life you'll assure
To make things secure,
My answer will be apropeau.

—Equitable News.

The Atlas Assurance Company has concentrated its underwriting department in the former office of the Manchester, in New York, and pursuing its policy of extending gradually in the Southern States, has entered the States of Georgia, Florida and Mississippi. The old Kings County Fire Insurance Company, which is controlled by the Atlas, has decided to cease underwriting in line with the general policy of the latter, whose business is thus concentrated in one channel.

Christie, Brown & Co., Limited, the well-known biscuit manufacturers, of Toronto, have just put in a water curtain system on the Frederick Street side of their factory, one on the south side having been put in some time ago. When in full working order, this curtain will protect the five stories of the building. This enterprising company realizes, what sooner or later will no doubt be realized by the majority of manufacturers, and others occupying large premises, that no pains is too great to take in protecting themselves against fire from the very beginning.

For a long time past those interested have felt that the Montreal fire alarm system is far from being in a satisfactory condition, and there is a growing opinion that the three departments of fire, fire alarm, and water, being more or less interdependent, should be united under one responsible head. Mr. J. Ferns, head of the alarm system, is, we understand, going into the subject very thoroughly, and trying to devise a plan complete in all details. One thing which seems to be badly needed is a separate fire-proof alarm building, as, under present arrangements, a fire in the building where they now centre would disorganize things completely, and might, in the event of a simultaneous serious fire elsewhere, lead to very disastrous consequences. Mr. Ferns strongly advocates the placing of all alarm wires in underground conduits, while a reorganization of the system of numbering the boxes is another reform urgently needed.

A special to the Toronto World gives particulars of the fifth annual convention of the Provincial Firemen's Association, which opened at Milton, Ont., on the 3rd inst. President Smith presided, and there was a good attendance of delegates from many parts of Ontario. The committee on laws reported that the association had been incorporated with headquarters at Merritton. Officers were elected and installed as follows: President, J. R. Smith, Niagara Falls; vice-president, S. Moffatt, Thorold; second vice-president, J. A. Stafford, Midland; secretary, W. J. Armstrong, Toronto; treasurer, W. Miller, Smith's Falls. Committees were elected with chairmen as follows: Executive, G. A. Thomas, J. A. Rose; printing, S. Moffatt; expenditure, W. Smith; games, A. Martin, A. Graham, A. Ridgett; laws and legislation, R. Clark. Merritton was chosen as the next place of meeting.

Embezzlements for May, as reported by "The Bulletin" of The United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company, amounted to \$553,434. Classified according to professions and occupations, they were as follows:—

Banks	\$118,000
Benevolent societies and institutions	23,005
Building and loan and other associations..	3,060
Court trusts	132,700
Federal and state	3,500
Firms and corporations	109,036
Insurance companies	2,000
Municipal	3,237
Transportation companies	67,000
Miscellaneous	91,896
Total	\$553,434

DRY GOODS NOTES.

A company has been organized with an authorized capital stock of \$50,000, and headquarters in Toronto, to acquire as a going concern the wholesale millinery business now carried on by Robert Taylor in that city, and to carry on a trade as general dry goods merchants, haberdashers, tailors, dressmakers, etc.

Cornwall real estate owners voted the other day in favor of granting exemption from taxes for ten years to the Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Company on the mill property formerly known as the Cornwall Manufacturing Company's woolen mills. The company will equip this mill with new machinery and start a new cotton mill which will give employment, it is stated, to 150 to 200 hands.

In explanation of the anxiety of the Colonial Wool Merchants' Association lest the bill for the improvement of the Port of London should be dropped by the Government, Commercial Intelligence reminds its readers that Colonial wool is the largest individual import of that Port, the yearly import during 1903 bearing a value of £17,267,188 out of a total value of all imports to London of £173,132,088. Wool contributes more in dock and warehouse charges to the Port of London than any other commodity.

It is not generally known that Italy is quite an important cotton manufacturing country. From a recent consular report, however, we gather that the cotton factories there have 2,650,000 spindles, and employ 171,126 hands, while the imports of raw cotton, which amounted to 270,504,420 lbs. in 1900, had increased to 339,949,320 pounds in 1900. Of this quantity, 223,546,440 pounds came from the United States and the remainder from British India, Egypt, and elsewhere. The production of cotton goods in 1882 amounted to 119,625,784 pounds, valued at £5,800,000 as compared with 311,509,980 pounds, valued at £13,500,000 in 1903. The consumption of cotton goods in Italy in 1882 amounted to 104,718,500 pounds as compared with 264,552,000 pounds in 1903. The consumption of Italian-made goods in the country amounted to £5,200,000 in 1903.

A correspondent of the Monetary Times in the North of England says that the cotton factories are resuming full