

went into commission January 1, in Philadelphia, is attracting considerable attention from other large cities, and its operations will be watched with interest. It does away entirely with fire engines within the congested district of the Quaker city. Some idea of the hydraulic power which is forced by the new system through specially constructed mains, may be gathered from the statement, that should a building twenty-one stories high take fire, six lines of hose, each twice the size of the ordinary fire hose, could be attached to the nearest fire plug and each of the six streams would have force enough to hurl themselves over the roof of the great building towering above. It is a wonder scarcely conceivable. The machinery which does this work consists of nine pumps located in a building at Delaware avenue and Race street. Nine miles of special pipe line cover the district supplied by it. These pumps can discharge sixteen million gallons of water a day under three hundred pounds pressure, or 10,000 gallons a minute, as compared to any ordinary fire engine with its 250 gallons a minute, and a proportionally small pressure. The pumps, worked by gas engines, can be started from rest to full speed and pressure in eighteen seconds. They are started and regulated electrically and the pressure can be regulated to an ounce. The use of gas engines is a great saving of labour, time and expense, as no great fires have to be kept going all the time. The fuel is composed of six parts of air to one of gas and is ignited by an electric spark. For the latter there are four different sources of supply to prevent any possible failure. The special pipe line is of varying sizes of pipe from 16 to 12 and 8 inches, and costs the sum of \$355,000. The station has brought a reduction of 25 cents in insurance rates in the district affected. The advent of the steam fire engine was an epoch. The pumping station is another as far as the mercantile districts of great cities are concerned. It is certainly another wonder of the age in which we live.

LIFE ASSURANCE IN CANADA IN 1903.

The usual preliminary statement of the life business transacted in Canada for the year 1903, appears on the next page. We regret that all the companies' figures were not received in time to be included. We shall, however, re-publish the table in our next issue. It is satisfactory to note that the great majority of the companies show an increase over that of 1902, although it was scarcely expected that this would have been accomplished, in view of the general financial situation during the past year.

We cannot give the totals in this issue, owing to some of the statements not having been received.

THE LAW OF NOVA SCOTIA RESPECTING DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INSURANCE CORPORATIONS.

The provisions of the Act relating to Domestic and Foreign Corporations, passed by the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, do not apply to chartered banks, nor to corporations for religious, benevolent or mutual improvement objects, but do apply to all companies, domestic or foreign, trading or carrying on business within the Province, for the purposes of gain, including life, fire and marine companies and mutual insurance companies having no capital stock, are required to pay a registration fee upon the basis of foreign companies having a capital exceeding \$500,000.

Every company incorporated under Act of the Province, or doing business therein, must appoint a resident manager or agent upon whom service of any process, notice or other document shall be deemed service on the company.

The name and address of every such official must be filed with the Provincial Secretary, and in the office of the registry of deeds for the district in which the company has its chief place of business in the Province.

A list of the shareholders of each such company and number of shares held by each shareholder on the 1st January, each year, certified by the president and secretary of the company, shall be filed in the offices named above.

Under the provisions of Section 18, every company not incorporated by or under authority by an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature having gain for its object, which might be so incorporated, before beginning business in the Province, must transmit to the Provincial Secretary a statement under oath, showing:

1. The corporate name of the company.
2. How, and under what special or general Act the company was incorporated,
3. Where the head office of the company is situated;
4. The amount of the authorized capital stock.
5. The amount of stock subscribed or issued, and amount paid thereon.
6. The nature of each kind of business the company is empowered to carry on, and what kind or kinds of business is, or are carried on in Nova Scotia.

7. The names of the directors and officers of the company and its agent or agents in Nova Scotia.

In January each year a statement must be sent to the Provincial Treasurer, showing all changes in directors, officers and agents in the preceding year. A penalty of \$10 per day is imposed on every director, manager, secretary, agent, traveller or salesman of such company, who does business in the Province after notice of default in giving the above notice. The Governor-in-Council has power to remit such penalty.