

Insurance in Four Western Provinces

Licensed insurance companies in 1913 transacted a Western Canadian business on which they received over \$25,000,000 in premiums. Below is given a summary by provinces—details for British Columbia being now to hand.

The total premium income of \$25,259,652 was made up of \$11,629,381 for fire insurance, \$9,687,100 for life insurance, leaving \$3,943,171 obtained from other branches. The latter does not include Saskatchewan's municipal hail insurance assessments, nor are fraternal insurance assessments in any province included with the life business.

Province	All Ins. Companies		Fire Companies		Life Companies	
	Premiums	Claims Paid	Premiums	Claims Paid	Premiums	Claims Paid
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Man. ...	7,240,043	2,306,898	3,023,872	1,301,186	3,353,906	635,611
Sask. ...	5,532,055	2,185,470	2,457,876	1,271,084	1,885,960	220,544
Alta. ...	5,129,101	2,515,137	2,357,539	1,720,687	1,930,639	369,374
Mid-West	17,901,199	7,007,505	7,839,287	4,292,957	7,170,505	1,225,529
Br. Col..	7,358,453	1,895,355	3,790,094	1,043,254	2,516,595	457,446
All West	25,259,652	8,902,860	11,629,381	5,336,211	9,687,100	1,682,975

A loss ratio of about 46 per cent. was entailed by fire companies on their entire Western business, the claims paid being \$5,336,211 and the premium received \$11,629,381. Life insurance premiums for the four provinces were \$9,687,100, with policy payments of \$1,682,975. But with many of the companies, matured endowments do not yet figure at all largely in the comparatively young fields of Alberta and Saskatchewan—nor are death claims yet relatively large in the new West.

It is not merely by their underwriting activities that insurance companies play an important part in the West's general business fabric. Their investments in the four Western provinces at the close of last year (chiefly in the form of mortgage loans and municipal debentures) amounted to nearly \$113,750,000—an increase of well on to \$15,000,000 during 1913, as nearly as can be reckoned with no British Columbia figures available for preceding year.

Investments in	All Ins. Cos.	Fire & Other Cos.	Life Cos.	All Ins. Cos.
	1913	1913	1913	1912
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Manitoba	51,312,247	11,289,670	40,022,577	41,634,038
Saskatchewan ...	30,755,210	3,414,870	27,340,340	25,375,421
Alberta	17,598,894	1,561,573*	16,037,321	18,727,580
Mid-West	99,666,351	16,266,113	83,400,238	85,787,039
Br. Columbia	14,049,640	1,000,000†	13,049,640
All West	113,715,991	17,266,113	96,449,878

*Figures for "other" companies estimated on basis of preceding year.
†Estimated. No figures available, except for Life Cos.

To sum up in round figures. The claims paid by insurance companies in the West during 1913, together with the increased sums invested by them, come almost within a million dollars of equalling the total premiums received during the year. And this takes no account of a sum of, say, \$5,000,000, as the proportion of the companies' business costs paid in commissions, salaries, rents, etc. (not to mention taxes) within the bounds of the four Western provinces. Undoubtedly insurance companies last year paid out or newly invested in the West some millions of dollars more than they received in premiums—the net result thus showing a considerable reinvestment of interest income as well.

As a leading life insurance manager once phrased it: "Insurance agents are the starting force in a circulatory system that is unique in its economic work for the community." Particularly has this been the case in Western Canada—and most of all in Manitoba. Unfortunate, indeed, is it if this province's moratorial legislation has been of a nature to lessen the confidence of those in charge of the investments of insurance companies at home and abroad.—Canadian Finance.

RECENT INSURANCE REGISTRATION.

West of Scotland Insurance Office, Limited, has been licensed to transact in British Columbia the business of fire insurance. Richard W. Douglas, 722 Yates Street, Victoria, is attorney for the Company.

The Marine Insurance Company, Limited, has been licensed under the "British Columbia Fire Insurance Act" to transact in British Columbia the business of fire insurance, limited to insuring automobiles against loss or damage by fire, and under the "Insurance Act" to transact inland transportation and automobile insurance. William W. Johnston, 837 Hastings Street West, Vancouver, is attorney for the Company.

Queensland Insurance Company, Limited, has been licensed to transact in British Columbia the business of marine insurance. C. Gardner Johnson & Co., Pender and Seymour Streets, Vancouver, are the attorneys for the Company.

LIFE UNDERWRITERS FAVOR UNIVERSAL PEACE.

Following the appointment of Dr. David Starr Jordan, Chancellor of Stanford University, as chairman of the Peace Committee of the World's Insurance Congress, the following resolutions were passed by the Detroit Life Underwriters' Association:

Whereas the World's Insurance Congress, to be held October 4th to 16th, 1915, in San Francisco, California, in connection with the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, gives to the great institution of insurance the recognition worthy of its importance as an economic and social factor; and

Whereas this Congress has for its object the preservation and conservation and publication of Life Insurance in all its departments, powers, and objects; and

Whereas we feel life underwriters everywhere, by word and deed, individually and collectively, should approve this Congress, exploit its merits and champion its plans and purposes, which will be the result of conclusions reached by the combined intelligence and experience of the greatest men in the business:

Be it resolved, that the Detroit Life Underwriters' Association formally and officially endorse the Congress, and co-operate with the Commissioner and his Deputies in making it the most potent factor in publicity, the most far-reaching influence in all insurance details, and the most helpful and suggestive instructor our business has ever known:

Be it further resolved, that the Detroit Life Underwriters' Association goes on record as inaugurating a movement for universal peace, suggesting that the home offices of the different companies, through their many millions of policy-holders, emphasize the tremendous value of a calm and generous adjustment of all national and international difficulties, and the awful consequences of war on our social, economical and moral existence, believing that in no better way can the public conscience be educated to insist upon the permanent establishment of peace and the assurance of domestic tranquility.

(Signed) CHARLES W. PICKELL,
DON CLARKE,
CHARLES S. WHITE.