

knows as well as anyone else. The insurance companies' directors, whom he has carelessly characterized as traitors, have contributed personally and as corporations, hundreds of thousands of dollars to patriotic and other funds. They have not written war risks with unsafe premiums. Consequently they seem to have brought upon them the displeasure of the new provincial treasurer.

As it is pointed out in the letter of protest addressed on Wednesday by the Canadian Life Officers' Association to premier Hearst, the Canadian life insurance companies as a whole have dealt most generously in the matter of insuring war risks. Practically all the Canadian companies openly agreed not to charge any extra amount in respect of existing policyholders entering active service abroad, and this notwithstanding the fact that in many cases the policies specifically provided that an extra might be charged.

"Since the Canadian companies," says the letter, "have practically all their business on the lives of Canadians, many of whom have gone or are likely to go to the front, they have already a larger percentage of their whole business exposed to such risk than any United States company can ever have, no matter how large a number they may insure. The Canadian companies have many millions at such risk now, with a certainty of having more as fresh contingents are formed. They have gone and will continue to go as far as safety to the whole will permit."

If the provincial treasurer had shown as much good judgment in talking of the insurance companies and their directors, as he did in framing his excellent provincial war tax on assessments, he would have done well. When Mr. McGarry looks over the facts again and reads the report of his speech, he will probably wish that much of it had been swallowed with his breakfast on the morning of budget day.

Listen while you may, to the man who talks life insurance to you, and act on his advice now.

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The continual exchange of notes by the nations reminds us of Western Canada in the days of nineteen-twelve.

SPAGHETTI IN THE LABORATORY

The consumers of macaroni, vermicelli and spaghetti in Canada may continue to eat in peace. Of 142 samples purchased in all parts of the country by the inspectors of chief analyst McGill, of Ottawa, only one was not of good quality and clean. The exception came originally from Italy and is described by the analyst as "mouldy" but "not dangerous to the health of the consumer."

The various Italian pastes known as macaroni, vermicelli and spaghetti are made by mixing and kneading a flour of high gluten content, with water, and moulding the resultant dough by pressure through holes in iron plates, or otherwise. Macaroni is the larger of the pipe-shaped products. Vermicelli, the shoelace-shaped variety, and spaghetti is a cord-like form, intermediate in size.

All this recalls the story told by *The Monetary Times* some time ago, of the British Columbia manufacturers who found that housewives there would buy only the Italian-made spaghetti, declaring that the Canadian-made article was inferior. So the British Columbia manufacturers labelled their stuff "Italian." It was then sold with ease to the same housewives, who, without a murmur, swallowed the spaghetti, their objections and the new label.

CANADA'S PACIFIC COAST

"Vancouver is the western-gate of all Canada and it has behind it the same vast country that is behind Montreal, Quebec and Halifax. It is now the chief port in Canada. Although it has had its reputation badly besmirched by such affairs as the Dominion Trust, there is still a city here and many firms that are doing clean, legitimate and substantial business. There are real reasons for the presence of a city here and these reasons have not been changed by the temporary change in conditions." So writes to *The Monetary Times*, Mr. J. Reginald Davison, Vancouver's industrial commissioner. Which remarks are really a thinly veiled protest, well deserved, at the disposition of human nature to allow the comparatively small to obscure the important, to allow the real estate collapse temporarily to blot out the merits of Vancouver, Victoria, New Westminster and of British Columbia generally. But who, after all, knowing those great ports in that great province, their location, their natural resources backbone, can doubt the place they will yet occupy in the world's commerce?

OFFICIAL SILENCE

Attorney-general Lucas, of Ontario, may be working so hard on the Pollman Evans case that he has no time to announce that it is actually having his attention. The interests of justice may demand silence on the trail. The attorney-general may have forgotten the existence of Evans. There may be good reasons why the former president of the Union Life is still at large. Politics may be mixed with the crash. A thousand things may or may not be. In the meantime, two things are certain—Pollman Evans has not been brought to Toronto to face the serious charges against him and the attorney-general has not seen fit to announce whether or not he is taking steps to bring Evans back.

Uniformity in Canadian provincial legislation will come as soon as politics sees the light.

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Spring is coming, the Allies are doing well, confidence is firm, sentiment is cheerful, loose money is easy, much money awaits investment, plans for more production are well under way, business is fair, there is a bond market, the general national position is being shaken into its proper place. Hold up the head and look forward!

CANADA'S LOANS IN UNITED STATES

Last fall, secretary of state Bryan told *The Monetary Times* that president Wilson's disapproval of United States loans to belligerents included Canada, its federal and provincial governments. Since then nearly \$14,000,000 of our provincial government loans have been raised in the United States, in addition to \$30,000,000 of Canadian municipal and corporation loans placed there. President Wilson and secretary of state Bryan are possibly recalling the facts that it is difficult to separate trade from loans or to dam capital at will. But Count von Bernstorff, German ambassador at Washington, after sizing up this loaning incident, will probably tell Washington that it talks in German and acts otherwise. Meanwhile, the count continues to talk.