

231 buildings in Ohio in the last three months prove that the fire marshal protests against the formation of clouds?

As stated in the "Bulletin" 86 fires occurred in 1904 from gas which had escaped from leaking mains, defective pipes, rubber hose and open cocks. This figure covers both kinds of gas.

The "fire alarms" issued call the attention of the people to various fire dangers and are intended to frighten them into carefulness in handling inflammable stuff, be it red paint or gasoline, to the end that the state's enormous fire loss may be reduced.

With intelligent carefulness in handling them the loss of money and lives from coal oil, parlor matches, the gases used for light and heat, and even gasoline would cease.

The instruction of the people as to the proper handling of these commodities is to the interest of persons supplying them, for if the people use one of them carelessly serious accidents will lead to the falling off in consumption.

Of the illuminants and heaters all have been treated except electricity which will soon be considered. If the people will follow the instructions for piping and handling artificial and natural gas—they are the same for both—there can be no accidents from either. This office attacks carelessness, not business interests.

The introduction of artificial gas into cities lessened the fire loss because it took the place of hand lamps which were easily broken. The introduction of natural gas as fuel in a community lessens the great fire loss from sparks escaping from chimney mouths and defective flues. In the state last year 1,099 fires were caused by the sparks from wood and coal stoves. Gas is safer for heating than wood, just as the kerosene lamp is safer than the tallow dip.

PERSONALS.

MR. E. A. PEASE, general manager of the Royal Bank, has been visiting Winnipeg, where it is reported this bank will open a new branch. He is now on his way to British Columbia.

DEATH OF MR. J. B. REED. We much regret to announce the death of Mr. J. B. Reed at his apartments in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on the 19th inst. He had been in failing health for past few years.

Mr. Reed represented the Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Company at Toronto for nearly thirty years, doing a large business for them. He was very much respected by a large circle of friends. He leaves two sons, Messrs. C. and L. Reed, who have been connected with him in the business for some years.

MR. A. L. EASTMURE, Vice-President Ontario Accident Insurance Company, Toronto, passed through Montreal this week en route to Quebec to attend the Annual Convention of the Manufacturers' Association.

Mr. Eastmure, who was recently in England, with the members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, informs us, that he has practically made arrangements to open a branch office of the "Ontario Accident" in England. He has many pleasant recollections, of his visit to the other side, and the hospitality received by himself, and Mrs. Eastmure from the English people, in common with the other visitors.

LORD CLAUD HAMILTON, chairman of the Board of the Employer's Liability Assurance Corporation, Messrs. H. W. Maynard, E. H. Llewellyn, M. P., directors, and Mr. S. Stanley Brown, manager of the company are expected

to arrive in New York in a few days. They will meet the general agents of the Employers' Liability Assurance Corporation at Boston, and be present at the dedication of the new building of the company on the 29th inst. They expect to return to England on 3rd October.

MR. THOMAS R. WOOD, Toronto, passed away suddenly on 14th inst. He was at home for lunch when seized with a fatal malady.

Mr. Wood was one of the best known of insurance agents. He was brought up in Montreal by an uncle from whom he inherited a fortune. The firm of Wood & Kirkpatrick, Toronto, were chief agents there of the Aetna, the Home, and the Phoenix Insurance Companies. Mr. Wood was a director of the Standard Bank, the Home Bank, the London & Canadian Loan Company, the Toronto Mortgage Company, the Ontario Lead & Wire Works Company, and the Consumers' Gas Company. He was very highly respected by a large circle of personal and business friends.

MR. JOHN H. FULTON, Cashier of the Commercial National Bank of New Orleans, L. A., has been on a visit to this city, where some years ago he was on the staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Mr. Fulton's wife and family have spent the summer in Montreal, and are returning with him. New Orleans is so unhealthy in the hot term that it is the universal custom of all its citizens, who are able, to spend a long vacation in a less oppressive climate. This city, is a very favourite resort for Southerners, where the charms and benefits of a more moderate temperature, clearer and more invigorating air, attractive opportunities for excursions on the river and lakes and to rural resorts in this vicinity, are highly enjoyed by our visitors. This city indeed is a sanitarium for those enervated by residence in Southern States.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

LONDON LETTER.

FINANCE.

London, England, August 9, 1905.

All Canadian investments here after a pronounced rise, have apparently started on a downward journey. Canadian Pacifics are a long way below their best price of 171 and Hudsons Bays are at 80, not 92½. Grand Trunks, too, although they are about the strongest Canadian feature at the moment, are below their best of 25½ for the ordinary. The lesser land shares of which a number sprang into prominence as a result of the boom in bigger things are also all off. We are having a display of T. W. Lawson advertising which is calculated to make the nervous fraternity of "weak bulls" rush into wild sales for which they may or may not repent at leisure. The "Financial Times" and the "Financial News" are the chief mediums here for the Bostonian's flaming rhapsodies. As these papers enjoy a considerable circulation amongst the pick of the British investors and speculators, the effect of the ads. is accumulative in time and seem to be all that the boisterous "bear" could wish.

People here are, therefore, turning their attention to British Industrials and South African mining and land