

been buying less and less from Great Britain and selling her more and more.

The total imports from Great Britain, 1873 to 1905, were \$1,465,760,000.

The total imports from the United States, 1873 to 1905, were \$2,208,460,000.

The total exports to Great Britain, 1873 to 1905, \$2,116,228,000.

The total exports to United States, 1873 to 1905, \$1,485,310,000.

Excess of Canada's exports to Great Britain over imports, \$650,468,000.

Excess of Canada's exports to Great Britain over exports to the States, \$630,918,000.

Excess of Canada's imports from the States over those from Great Britain, \$742,700,000.

Balance of British trade, 1873 to 1905, in favour of Canada to extent of, \$650,468,000.

Balance of American trade, 1873 to 1905, in favour of United States, \$723,150,000.

However desirable it may be judged to reverse the movements shown in operation in the above statistics and the accompanying table, it is difficult to see by what fiscal arrangements so complete a revolution could be effected.

CONFEDERATION LIFE ASSOCIATION.

Considering the fire of criticism which has been directed against life assurance companies in the past year we naturally expect to find marks of injury in their statements for 1905. Even in the reports of Canadian life companies it would be only what has been expected were they to show signs of being damaged by the exposure of irregularities in the conduct of some American officials.

The statement of the Confederation Life Association for 1905 shows this strong company to have passed unscathed through the fire of criticism and disparagement.

There is such a thing as a fire-proof company as well as a fire-proof building and the Confederation Life seems to belong to this class.

The following is a

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF BUSINESS FOR 1904-5.

	1904.	1905.	Increase 1905 over 1904
Assets.....	\$10,352,123	\$11,100,079	\$ 747,956
Premium Income.....	1,262,345	1,380,054	117,709
Interest income.....	439,754	481,738	41,984
Total income.....	1,702,099	1,861,792	159,693
Cash surplus.....	\$610,496	\$700,499	\$90,003
PAID TO POLICYHOLDERS:			
Death claims.....	\$360,190	\$330,696	
Matured endowments...	237,234	333,513	
Annuities.....	19,208	21,396	
Surrendered policies....	49,169	71,615	
Cash profits.....	65,590	80,655	
Total paid.....	\$731,391	\$837,875	\$106,484

Death claims accrued

during the year.....	\$ 348,883	\$ 373,126	\$ 24,243
Applications received...	5,243,894	6,298,858	1,054,964
Policies issued.....	5,017,988	6,002,122	984,134
Insurance in force	39,347,817	42,500,350	3,152,533

The increase of the premium income in the past four years was as follows:

In 1905.	In 1904.	In 1903.	In 1902.
\$117,709	\$65,534	\$57,757	\$87,735

Last year the increase of premium income was \$47,000 in excess of the average of the three preceding years.

The applications received amounted to \$6,298,858, which exceeds those in 1904 by the large figure of \$1,054,964. The policies issued were for \$6,002,122, which was an increase of \$984,134 over 1904, and of \$1,864,149 over 1903.

With the increase in volume of business there has gone on a corresponding enlargement of the company's resources. The assets rose last year from \$10,352,123 to \$11,100,079, an increase of \$747,956, and the cash surplus from \$610,496 to \$700,499.

Last year the company enjoyed two advantages, the rate of interest earned went up from 4.84 per cent. to 5.07 per cent., and the payments for death claims were reduced from \$360,190 to \$330,696. The insurance in force at the close of 1905 was \$42,500,350 which is six millions more than at the end of 1903.

The Confederation Life Association can then truthfully claim to have added considerably to its business and its resources in the past year despite the adverse conditions prevailing in the sphere of life assurance. On the results of the company's operations last year Mr. J. K. Macdonald, managing director, is to be congratulated, as also are his co-workers and those who are fortunate enough to be keeping up a policy in this substantial, admirably managed and progressive company.

Mr. H. J. Johnston, is now advisory director at Montreal, Mr. McKay, cashier, Mr. A. P. Raymond, general agent, French Department, and Mr. J. A. Raymond, special agent, French Department.

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA.

The Royal Bank of Canada made another step forward last year in extent of resources, of business and profits.

The net earnings were \$491,918, which amounts to over 16 per cent. on the paid-up capital of \$3,000,000. To this sum there being added \$302,743, the balance of profit and loss brought from previous year, made a total of \$794,662 for distribution. Out of this sum one-half yearly dividend of 4 per cent. was paid, and two quarterly dividends, respectively of 2 per cent. and 2¼ per cent. each. To the Officer's Pension Fund there was added \$10,000, \$100,000 was written off bank premises account, and \$400,000 transferred to reserve fund, leaving a