tative of the Norwich Union in the Dominion, exercises such judicious control over the Canadian business of the Society conducted by him that the traditions of a grand old company are being well-maintained, and this very estimable gentleman and clever underwriter is fully entitled to the respect and confidence of those having dealings with the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society in the Dominion of Canada.

MONTREAL INSURANCE COMMISSION RULES.

This vexed question has after prolonged discussion and numerous meetings of the local Board, and the Canadian Association at last been determined. An agreement has been signed on behalf of every company member of the Association to observe the new rules which become effective on 1st August next.

Up till now, although the rate of brokerage payable to agents who influenced business to offices, other than their own, was limited to 10 per cent., no limit was obligatory on risks brought to companies, by their own agents in Montreal. Now, however, such a limit has been agreed upon, and brokers will receive 15 per cent. on all other business from all companies. In order, however, to be eligible to receive such commission every such person must obtain a license from the Montreal Board, for which a fee has to be paid. This should have the effect of keeping the business in the hands of those best qualified to look after the important interests entrusted to them.

LONDON ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

Mr. W. Kennedy has been appointed inspector of the above Corporation in succession to Mr. Dean. Mr. Kennedy has gained much experience of the insurance business in the office of the Northern, and other first class companies.

For the past year or two, he has been associated with his father, Mr. John Kennedy of the firm of Hanson and Kennedy, Dominion Adjustment Bureau, and has acquired knowledge and considerable experience of the adjustment of claims. We congratulate Mr. Kennedy on his appointment to the service of this old and well-known Corporation.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

A branch office of the above bank has been opened at Bennett, B.C. under the temporary management of Mr. D. Simpson.

LA BANQUE JACQUES CARTIER.

The annual statement of this bank was reviewed in the last issue of THE CHRONICLE. Elsewhere, we now publish a full report of the meeting of shareholders, from which it will be seen that the balance sheets were regarded as highly satisfactory.

Financial condition of Canadian Joint Stock Fire Insurance Companies for 1898.

Compiled from abstract of Dominion Insurance Report.

CANADIAN COMPANIES—ASSETS.

Companies.	Real Estate.	Loans on Real Estate	Stocks, Bonds and Debentures.	Agents' Balances and Bills Receivable.	Cash on hand and in Banks.	Interest Due and Accrued.	Other Assets.	Total Assets.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
British America	150,468 92	10,000 00	1,093 406 71	173,116 68	48,571 53	10,860 84	37,584 12	1,524,008 80
Canadian Fire	None.	None.	32,300 00	4,962 81	38,786 05	773 00	None.	126,821 86
London Mutual Fire	14,110 81	None.	58,361 25	*296,140 51	15,741 02	402 67	2,254 01	387,010 27
Mercantile	None.	None.	144,342 04	3,667 62	20,235 24	1,624 09	None.	169,868 99
Quebec	32,000 00	None.	191,047 00	22,872 09	29,410 56	1,590 00	1,191 66	278,111 31
Western	65,000 00	56,926 00	1,461,295 19	470,201 59	185,615 90	10,506 59	94,946 31	2,344,491 58
Total	261,579 73	66,926 00	3,030,752 19	970,961 30	338,360 30	25,757 19	135,976 10	4,830,312 81

LIABILITIES.

Companies.	Unsettled Losses.	†Reserve of unearned Premiums.	Sundry.	Total Liability, not including Capital Stock	Excess of Assets over Liabilities, excluding Capital Stock	Capital Stock paid up or in course of Collection.
	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.	$ cts.
British America	171,902 30	797,686 03	4,844 62	974,432 95	549,575 85	750,000 00
Canadian Fire	None.	35,758 40	None.	35,758 40	91,063 46	77,500 00
London Mutual Fire	17,031 91	343,567 91	None.	360,599 82	26,410 45	None.
Mercantile	4,526 86	55,717 26	None.	60,244 12	109,624 87	50,000 00
Quebec	11,750 00	95,199 59	1,290 91	108,240 50	169,870 81	100,000 00
Western	204,515 05	1,194,690 64	1,183 53	1,400,389 22	944,102 36	1,000,000 00
Total	409,726 12	2,522,619 83	7,319 06	2,939,665 01	1,890,647 80	1,977,500 00

* Including $290,687 86 premium notes.

† The amounts in this column give the *pro ratâ* of gross premiums for the unexpired terms of all policies of the several companies in force at 31st December, 1898, as provided in the statutes in that behalf. Upon the assumption that adequate premiums have been collected these amounts may be regarded as considerably in excess of the sums which would ordinarily be required to pay the losses to accrue under outstanding risks, a fact which may properly be taken into account in the case of individual companies in considering questions of actual or probable as distinguished from *legal* surplus, declaring dividends, impairment of capital and other cognate subjects.