Advance Plate Glass Rates.—Plate glass underwriters propose to have better rates in Chicago. A conference between Eastern officials and representatives of the companies in Chicago was held on Monday last, at which it was decided to provide for an immediate advance in the rates, based upon a combined classification of the Chicago business. W. T. Woods, of New York, president of the Lloyds, of New York, presided at the conference. The meeting did nothing beyond deciding upon the general policy to be pursued. Three companies submitted a complete schedule of their Chicago business at compact rates for the last eight months. It showed a loss ratio of 70 per cent. Including the recent 10 per cent. advance in rates, the loss would have reached the high figure of 77 per cent. It is not proposed to make any big advance, but simply to place the business on a basis where it will show a reasonable percentage of profit. Those present were: A. Griffing, president of the Aetna Indemnity of Hartford; Ralph Butler, secretary of the Central of Pittsburg; Mr. Maus, Frankfort and Frankfort-American of New York; W. T. Woods, president Lloyds of New York; E. H. Winslow, president Metropolitan of New York; S. C. Hoagland, president New Jersey of Newark; Max Dansinger, president New York of New York; Edward Cluff, president Union Casualty of St. Louis. A. C. Collins, of Chicago, represented the Fidelity & Casualty; A. C. Durbrow, the Maryland and Goodwin; Hall & Henshaw, the Continental Casualty. Chicago representatives of the other companies were also present.

OTTAWA NOTES.

Ottawa is not going to be behind the rest of Canada in welcoming back her boys from South Africa. This city sent out the heaviest contingent of any in Canada, and is now taking steps to give the homecomers a hearty greeting.

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The Secretary of the Board of Trade has been instructed by the Council to write to the underwriters and endeavour to arrange a conference in connection with the recent advance in rates. It is held that the insurance men have not sufficiently allowed for the new building and lumber pile regulations.

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The new Eddy mills are approaching completion, and have been built fireproof and with iron roof.

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In a communication to the Ottawa Board of Trade, Mr. Hadrill, secretary of the underwriters, points out that while certain sections of the town are more strictly supervised than heretofore, the restrictions upon shingle roofs and lumber piling are not general; a condition of affairs which, he says, cannot but be prejudicial to future consideration of rates in the city. He also states that the city's fire appliances are not adequate enough, that the increasing area of the town makes it difficult to secure a satisfactory fire pressure and supply, while the increasing height of our buildings renders the use of steamer fire engines imperative.

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The Interprovincial Bridge is now almost completed, and the company has sent notice to the city that it stands ready to receive the bonus of $150,000 in 4 per cent. bonds which had been voted towards the work.