

THE PROVINCIAL BANK OF CANADA.

From the report which appears on another page, it appears that during 1911, the Provincial Bank of Canada, of Montreal, which has branches and agencies established in the provinces of Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, made considerable headway in its chosen field. The following figures show the leading items of the Bank's newly published balance sheet in comparison with 1910:—

	1910.	1911.
Capital paid up.. . . .	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Reserve Fund.. . . .	425,000	500,000
Circulation.. . . .	1,084,013	1,109,468
Deposits.. . . .	6,988,142	8,521,048
Liabilities to public.. . . .	8,139,543	10,568,530
Call loans.. . . .	1,493,969	3,192,011
Quick Assets.. . . .	4,949,135	7,551,458
Current loans.. . . .	4,327,777	4,159,448
Total Assets.. . . .	9,578,217	12,080,993

From these figures it will be seen that the bank has enjoyed a considerable access of deposits during 1911. On the other side of the account the main change is in connection with the call loans which during the year were increased from \$1,493,969 to \$3,192,011. These movements result in the quick assets continuing in a high proportion to total liabilities to the public. The total assets as at December 31 last, were \$12,080,993, a very satisfactory expansion of \$2,500,000 over the 1910 total of \$9,578,217.

From the point of view of profits the year was also a satisfactory one. The declared profits are \$184,308. The five per cent. dividend absorbs \$50,000 as before, \$27,461 is written off bank furniture and fixtures and goes for the opening and maintenance of new branches, \$25,000 is transferred to a special fund for strengthening assets, \$75,000 is placed to reserve, and after making other allowances \$12,463 is carried forward. The bank's reserve fund has now been brought up to \$500,000, equal to 50 p.c. of the paid-up capital.

The only change in personnel made at this week's annual meeting is that Mr. M. Chevalier becomes one of the censors of the Savings Bank Department. Mr. H. Laporte continues as president and Mr. Tancred Bienvenu, as general manager.

CALENDAR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Prudential Insurance Company of Newark, N.J., send out for 1912 another "Prudential Girl." The calendar is handsomely printed in colors. The Dominion Bank presents pictures of their important offices backed by heraldic designs and tastefully arranged maple leaves. From Southam's Limited, Montreal, comes an artistic reproduction of Place d'Armes square, Montreal, in summer. The Mutual Life of Canada's handsome head office at Waterloo, Ont., figures on their 1912 calendar with an allegorical design. The Benallack Lithographing & Printing Company sent a handsome specimen of colour printing in the shape of portraits of the King and Queen. The North American Life, "solid as the continent" has the continent—in brown on a grey ground.

We have also to acknowledge the receipt of calendars from Messrs. J. A. Davis & Co., Montreal (large sheet calendar), the Prudential Trust Company (view of Montreal and Mount Royal), the Ross Realty Company (as last year), the Montreal City & District Savings Bank (interior of head office), the Standard Life, the National Trust, Royal Insurance Company, the British America Bank Note Company, the Scottish Union, Law Union & Rock and Messrs. G. Ross Robertson & Sons.

Insurance: Fire, Life and Miscellaneous.**INVESTIGATING THE EQUITABLE FIRE.**

The New York Board of Fire Underwriters are making a thorough investigation of all the facts connected with the Equitable Life building fire. The investigation is in the hands of the Underwriters' Bureau of Surveys, which may be described as a standing committee of the board.

Some of the New York newspapers have been drawing attention to the fact that no high pressure water was used at the fire until Chief Kenlon telephoned for it after the fourth alarm, or forty-nine minutes after the first alarm was turned in, and the fact that Chief Kenlon, of the New York fire department, did not respond in person to the first alarm is also being discussed. This was Kenlon's first big fire and it is said that in not responding to the first alarm, the new chief was violating a precedent of long standing set by previous chiefs that the chief should respond to every alarm from the financial district in the night hours.

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UNION LIFE OF CANADA'S ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The annual convention and banquet of representatives of the field force of the Union Life of Canada, of Toronto, was held in Montreal on January 18 and 19. As in the past three or four years, the delegates qualified to attend the convention were determined by the results achieved during the closing campaign of 1911, which had for its object the closing of the company's books on December 31, 1911, with not less than \$25,000,000 of insurance in force. The Southern Territory (comprising the province of Ontario) were the winners in the contest. About 200 delegates were present from the territory between Halifax, N.S., and Winnipeg.

President H. Pollman Evans, in calling the convention to order, announced that the Company had actually on its books \$25,068,000, or more than the amount asked for. The amount of insurance written for the year was \$20,000,000, and the actual gain of insurance in force, \$6,918,000, or close to 35 p.c. This, he said, was by far the largest gain to issue on the company's records, with the exception of the first six months the Union Life was in business. The premium income had increased over \$100,000, and the number of policies issued in 1911 showed an increase over 1910 of 50 p.c. The excellent condition of the debit and per cent. of collections were also commented upon by the President.