

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

HURON & ERIE LOAN & SAVINGS COMPANY.

The Directors of the Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company beg to submit herewith their Thirty-fourth Annual Report, showing the results of the business of the Company for the past year, accompanied by the balance sheet to December 31st, 1897, duly audited.

After defraying the expenses of management and all other charges, and making provision for doubtful debts, the business for the past year, including \$22,113.39 brought forward from last year's accounts, shows a net profit of \$166,085.25. Two half-yearly dividends of four and one-half per cent. each, and the income tax of \$2,657.31 thereon, absorbed \$128,657.31, leaving a surplus of \$37,427.94, of which \$20,000.00 has been added to the Reserve Fund, and the balance, \$17,427.94, carried forward to next year.

The Reserve Fund now amounts to \$750,000.00, or over fifty-three and one-half per cent. of the paid-up capital stock of the Company.

The reduction in the prevailing rate of interest on choice Mortgage loans has been largely met by the reduced rate at which money has been obtained on deposit and on the debentures of the Company.

The re-valuation of Mortgaged lands referred to in the last Annual Report has been continued, so that within the past two years almost every security held by the Company has been inspected by a competent valuator, other than the Inspector upon whose report the investment was originally made. Where the margin of security appeared doubtful, ample provision has been made.

The value of the Real Estate held by the Company, exclusive of office premises, is \$20,350.00. This sum includes all properties remaining unsold which have come into the possession of the Company by foreclosure, failure to obtain purchasers under power of sale, or otherwise. Interest was paid more promptly than usual, and the arrears at December 31st, were less than for a number of years previously.

Your Directors desire to bear testimony to the very efficient manner in which the Manager and other officers of the Company have discharged their respective duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. LITTLE,
President.

LONDON, ONTARIO,
26th January, 1898.