

**DEATH OF MR. EDWARD N. GIBBS.**

The esteem and affection with which the late treasurer of the New York Life Insurance Company inspired those who knew him best, cannot be expressed in more feeling words than those chosen by President McCall in paying tribute to the memory of a resourceful and dominant man of affairs, and, in private life, a courteous and kindly man of "broad sympathies and deep affections." Mr. McCall adds: "We mourn the officer whose judgments were sound and just; we mourn the friend whose qualities won our affections; but we take comfort from the inspiration of a life that was full of achievement,—from the example of one who endured indescribable suffering with heroism, and who met death without a fear."

**THE COMMERCIAL UNION.**

The Commercial Union having acquired the business of the Palatine of Manchester, has, in addition to its Fire business, taken over its Accident branch, including its interest in the Canada Accident Assurance Company, so that, in addition to the present solid condition of that company, policyholders will have the additional guarantee of The Commercial Union Assurance Company.

**PERSONALS.**

Mr. I. H. Ewart, Toronto, agent of the National Assurance Company of Ireland, has been visiting Montreal this week.

Mr. M. C. Hinshaw, manager of the Atlas and National Insurance Companies, has returned from his holiday-making in England.

Mr. Fitzgerald, Superintendent of Insurance, is paying an official visit to Montreal, accompanied by the assistant superintendent, Mr. Blackadar.

Mr. E. Roger Owen, of London, manager of the Commercial Union Assurance Company, who spent a few days recently in Montreal, looking after the interests of his company, left on Saturday last for Chicago and the Pacific Coast. He expects to sail for London about November 12th.

Two up to date Insurance Inspectors of experience and good record, who are at present engaged with a well known Life Company, wish to form a partnership as district managers for a good Life Insurance Company with Territory Eastern Ontario (Kingston and East) with Ottawa as a Centre, we have a good connection, and control a number of local agents, contract to date from January 1st 1901, all communications will be treated in strictest confidence.

Address

District Managers,  
care of C. E. Chubbuck,  
Railways and Canals Dept., Ottawa.

**BANK OF MONTREAL**

NOTICE is hereby given that a DIVIDEND of FIVE PER CENT. upon the paid up Capital Stock of this Institution has been declared for the current half year, and that the same will be payable at its Banking House in this City, and at its Branches, on and after SATURDAY, the FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER next.

The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to the 30th of November next, both days inclusive.

By order of the Board,

E. S. CLOUSTON,  
General Manager.

Montreal, 16th October, 1900.

WOULD A SIMILAR ASSOCIATION SUIT MONTREAL?—There is an association in the South called the Sea-board Air Line and Industrial Association. This has four members—two men and two women—in each town on the lines of the Southern Railroad corporation. The men look after such business improvements as will benefit the towns commercially, the women after the decorative and beautifying features, such as parks or grounds around schoolhouses, etc. Reports are made to the departments each week, and, if meeting the road's approval, the improvements suggested are made.

**Correspondence.**

We do not hold ourselves responsible for views expressed by correspondents.

**TORONTO LETTER.**

An Estimate of the Situation from a Non-Tariff Standpoint—A Step Towards Advancing Rates—An Averted Threatening Fire—An Enquiry.

Dear Editor,

So far as an estimate can be made from the published returns of fire losses, and what one hears, it seems clear that the non-tariff offices are likely to fare no better than the line companies on the honour roll of losses paid, when the summing up takes place at the end of the current year. Both classes are going to show an unprofitable year, unless some unlooked for, and unusual, good luck attends them between now and the 31st December. It may be that some one or two, or even three of the non-tariff organizations may fare better than the majority can hope to do, perhaps by reason of a longer and larger experience, and more scientific treatment of business, but the point I would make is, that the newcomers have proved, or are in process of proving to onlookers, that they possess no secrets that will ensure to them big money or success. They have discovered nothing of promise for the future, for their trade ways and original (?) methods,—no royal road to success, and so must needs jog along the well-beaten paths, dusty and toilsome as they are, which of late they ignored or professed to ignore. Short cuts (and deep cuts) across the country towards the goal, they will likely find, if they have not already found, to be perilous and beset with many dangers. There is, after all, something more in the transacting of fire