

WHEAT PRICES soared yesterday in Chicago as the result of a "corner" and closed at \$1.20 for September, and 99¾ cents for December. These quotations are respectively about 17 cents and ¾ cents higher than a week ago.

At Winnipeg prices closed as follows, yesterday and a week ago:—

|               | Sept. | Oct. | Dec. | May. |
|---------------|-------|------|------|------|
| Sept. 30..... | 94½   | 94½  | 92½  | 97½  |
| Sept. 23..... | 96½   | 95½  | 93½  | 98   |

A LONDON CABLE from the Canadian Associated Press states that the Mexican Government has cable a denial of the rumours which have been current concerning the damage to the Mexican Light & Power Company's dam at Texacana. It is further stated that the loss amounts to only £50,000.

THE DEMERARA ELECTRIC COMPANY'S EARNINGS for August follow:

|                                 | 1908.       | 1909.       |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Gross.....                      | \$10,325.19 | \$11,538.35 |
| Net.....                        | 4,688.22    | 4,889.73    |
| For eight months to August 31:— |             |             |
| Gross.....                      | \$79,277.68 | \$85,967.82 |
| Net.....                        | 33,637.23   | 39,044.83   |

UNITED STATES SHOWINGS of Casualty companies as tabulated by the United States Review give the following in the cases of two Canadian companies:

| Capital paid in.                              | Total Assets, 1909. | Total Assets, Dec. 31, 1908. | Net Surp., June 30, 1909. | Net Surp., Dec. 31, 1908. | Reinsur. Reserve, 1909. | Reinsur. Reserve, Dec. 31, 1908. |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>CANADIAN CASUALTY AND BOILER, TORONTO.</b> |                     |                              |                           |                           |                         |                                  |
| \$50,000                                      | \$135,219           | \$130,175                    | \$3,585                   | .....                     | \$65,266                | \$58,878                         |
| <b>GENERAL ACCIDENT, TORONTO, CANADA.</b>     |                     |                              |                           |                           |                         |                                  |
| \$50,000                                      | \$166,363           | \$160,994                    | \$8,828                   | \$6,639                   | \$81,983                | \$62,818                         |

MESSRS. A. E. AMES & Co., investment agents, Toronto, have issued an attractively printed hand-book entitled "Investors' Reference." The carefully compiled information it contains should be of much service to the firm's clientele and others.

THE GREAT WEST LIFE has appointed, as manager for Ontario, Mr. Dean H. Pettes, who has been connected with the company since 1902. Mr. Pettes is one of those men who can be counted upon always "to do things."

A \$5,000,000 CONTRACT with G. Pearson & Sons, of London, is said to have been signed yesterday by the Mexican Northern Company, for construction of light and power works at Conchas River.

MR. J. G. BORTHWICK, Secretary, Caledonian Insurance Company, arrived in Montreal a few days ago from Scotland, where he had been spending a two months holiday.

GOLD TO THE AMOUNT of about \$1,300,000 has been brought from New York to Canada during the past week—\$1,000,000 by the Bank of Montreal, \$300,000 by the Bank of Nova Scotia.

A BRANCH of the Bank of Montreal will be opened at Cloverdale, B.C., on the 4th of October next, under the management of Mr. A. R. Dickson.

OTTAWA LIGHT, HEAT & POWER COMPANY securities are being listed on the Montreal Exchange.

MONTREAL CUSTOMS returns for September were \$1,435,369—an increase of \$385,342 over last year.

IMMIGRANTS to the number of 146,908 entered Canada during 1908-9

## THE WITNESS FIRE.

The work of the Fire Brigade at the fire which did such havoc at the Witness office is being criticised in an investigation held before Fire Commissioner Ritchie. Chief Tremblay, who defended the work of his men, made the announcement that he is considering a system of inspection of public building to know where the most valuable machinery is located, so that adequate means may be taken to protect it first. We were under the impression that a system of inspection of buildings had been considered and inaugurated years ago. Certainly Chief Patton and his successors have taken credit for putting such a system into practical effect. The fire underwriters will think it rather late in the day for such a subject to be in the consideration stage. The Witness property loss is said to be about \$100,000. The Lloyds carried the insurance. The policies of the various offices formerly carrying it were cancelled on June 16th last.

## ACCIDENT UNDERWRITERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA.

A special meeting of the Accident Underwriters Association of Canada was held in Toronto on the 28th and 29th instants at which various matters pertaining to the betterment of Liability Assurance in Canada were discussed. Mr. W. H. Cross, Western secretary of the Association, presided. The following companies were represented, Railway Passengers (F. H. Russel), Maryland Casualty (J. W. McKenzie), London & Lancashire Guarantee & Accident (F. McLean), Ocean Accident (Charles H. Neely), Canadian Railway Accident (John Emo), Imperial Guarantee (E. Willans), London Guarantee (D. W. Alexander), Dominion of Canada Guarantee (Mr. Withers), Employers' Liability (R. I. Griffin and C. W. I. Woodland).

CANADIAN CUSTOMS revenue for September was \$5,437,458—an increase of \$1,409,531, over last year.



SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for alterations to Examining Warehouse, Montreal, Que." will be received at this office until 5.00 P.M., on Wednesday, October 6, 1909, for alterations to Examining Warehouse, Montreal, Que.

Plans, specification and form of contract can be seen and forms of tender obtained at this Department and on application to Mr. C. Desjardins, Clerk of Works, Post Office, Montreal.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with their actual signatures with their occupations and places of residence. In the case of firms, the actual signature, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the firm must be given.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted cheque on a chartered bank, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to ten per cent. (10 p.c.) of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the person tendering decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order, NAPOLEON TESSIER,  
Secretary, Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, September 21, 1909.