A PROMINENT UNDERWRITER TO RETIRE.

Underwriting circles in the United States have heard with regret of the contemplated retirement early in 1903 of Mr. Francis C. Moore, president of the Continental Insurance Company. Mr. Moore commenced his insurance career in 1869, as one of the book-keepers of the institution of which he is now president. He had previously spent some time preparing for the legal profession, and on drifting into insurance he devoted attention to insurance law After doing field work for some time he was appointed agency manager in 1880, from which position he rose until, in 1889, he was elected president, an office he has held to the great advantage of the Company. Mr. Moore has issued a number of books and pamphlets on insurance, the best known and valued being, "Guide to Agents," and "Unearned Premiums," which have had a very large sale. His pamphlets have met with much appreciation, as he combines technical knowledge of insurance and practical acquaintance with field work, with a more than usually lucid style.

Mr. Moore's advancement is an object lesson to young men. Having decided to make insurance his calling in life, he devoted himself to studies by which he mastered the business in all its ramifications and aspects, technical, financial, mechanical and legal. When based upon studies so comprehensive and so earnestly pursued, fire underwriting may well claim to be a profession.

CANADA'S GROWING TIME.

THE MOVEMENT OF UNITED STATES PEOPLE AND MONEY INTO THE DOMINION.

The New York "Tribune" considers that the recent influx of United States people into the Canadian Northwest has created a feeling of alarm in Canada lest the new settlers should become a strong element in favour of annexation. If there is much alarm among our people upon this subject they have been remarkably successful in concealing it. As a matter of fact, no class of immigrants is more welcome to Canada than the farmers of the Western States, because no class is likely to make better settlers. They understand their business and are accustomed to climatic and other conditions similar to those prevailing in Canada. Some years before they will be numerically strong enough to materially affect our politics and by that time their vested interests will be identical with those of Canadians generally, and it is highly improbable that they will want to make any radical change in Canada's political relations with the United States. There is but one opinion on the annexation question among Canadians of all origins, and it is not to be expected that the immigrants from the United States will be an exception to the rule. Many of them are already British subjects, or descendants of those emigrated to the United States, who have come to the conclusion that the conditions of life are more favourable to them north of the frontier. Those who are not British subjects will have to be naturalized before they can exercise the slightest political power. Canada has gained immensely in recent years by the influx of American people as well as of American capital. Some of the most distinguished capitalists of industry in the Dominion are of the United States origin and to day the King has no more loyal subjects. It would be unfortunate if anything should be done to check the present movement of population from the United States into the Canadian wheat district, or if the impression should get abroad that these people will not be received with the utmost cordiality. This perfectly natural movement is due to the filling up of the available agricultural lands of the Western States. The future prosperity of the whole Dominion depends more upon the filling up of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories with a good agricultural population than upon anything else. One good effect that should result from the influx of American settlers is the promotion of the most cordial business relations between ourselves and our neighbours. We believe and hope that the present movement of United States people and capital into Canada is destined not only to continue but to attain very considerable proportions within the next five or ten years.

PROMINENT TOPICS.

The remarkable monetary conditions in New York afford a demonstration of the inadequacy of the currency and banking arrangements of the United States to meet the requirements of business under a temporary demand for enlarged accommodation. When the crops are reaped there is annually a heavy demand for money to cover harvest expenses and the financial exigencies arising from the placing of products in the market. This is a yearly occurrence as regular as the seasons, and ought to be provided for as regularly. The American banks do not appear to have made any arrangements for meeting this annual demand as ordinary prudence dictated. They went on locking up their funds locally in the face of conditions being known to be at hand that would require them for harvesting purposes at distant points. Then, when the drain so long foreseen set in, when the annual demands were becoming pressing, they found their resources so inadequate to