as taken up and paid for during the year, was only about $100,000 short of the previous year's business, notwithstanding that the premium rates on new Insurance were, of necessity, advanced on January 1st, 1900, to comply with the lower rate of interest which the Canadian Government had established as a basis for calculating policy Reserves.

After the payment of Death Claims, and Annuities, and all charges in connection with the organization and establishment of the Company, including the cost of securing a volume of business out of which over $2,116,000 of Insurance remains on our books, we have, in a little over three years, added $72,865.51 to our Capital and Assets. In connection with the securing of this business now remaining in force on our books, the Company has in the same time declined to accept or carry out over $320,000 of additional business offered, which was not considered desirable.

In concluding, the President said that in the organization and establishment of a Life Insurance Company, time was essential. Some of the most successful Companies have been many years in placing on their books a volume of business equal to ours. In certain cases a larger business had been secured within the same time, but the test of good management was not in the amount of business written. The quality of a Life Company's business was best judged by the premiums received for carrying the risk, the proportion of Insurance remaining in force, and the claims by death. The first proved the extent of the Company's resources; the second, the methods employed in getting business, as well as public confidence in the Company; and the third, the care and good judgment exercised in accepting only good lives.

In seconding the adoption of the Report, Mr. A. F. Gault, Vice-President, said:—

"I am pleased to again be able to say that the progress of our Company has been very satisfactory, considering the many difficulties to be overcome in establishing a Life Insurance Company. Competition is perhaps greater in this Class of Insurance than in any other, and the number of Companies competing is very large. The volume of business written, however, does not necessarily in every case ensure the making of profits. A high premium rate and a good quality of business are more favorable elements to ensure the building up of an institution of this kind.

Having full confidence in the scientific basis on which our Company is established and conducted, I believe it is certain, at an early date, to be one of the leading Insurance institutions of this country, and an important factor in the enormous growth and development of Life Insurance as represented by our Canadian Companies, which is evidence that the people of this country believe in the soundness of their own institutions. Now that the Company has established agencies in nearly all the important places in the Dominion, it is only reasonable to expect that the business for the current year will be proportionately increased.

Dr. T. G. Roddick, Medical Director, in referring to the work of his department and the results obtained, said that much of the credit was due to the examining doctors at the various agencies of the Company for the very favorable mortality experienced so far.

Since commencing business the net losses from mortality have only reached about 35 per cent. of the expected losses. The regularly appointed staff of Medical Examiners throughout Canada, now on the Company's registers, number about 500 physicians, carefully selected, in whose ability and integrity in the Company's interests he had the fullest confidence. Dr. Roddick further stated that without unduly anticipating the continuance of such favorable mortality results in the future, as had thus far been experienced, he was, neverthelss, pleased to state that for the first three months of the present year, 1901, only one claim for $1,000 had fallen in.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

James Crathern, Director Canadian Bank of Commerce; Andrew F. Gault, Director Bank of Montreal; Hon. L. J. Forget, President Montreal Street Railway Company; Jonathan Hodgson, Director Merchants' Bank of Canada; Hon. James O'Brien, Director City and District Savings Bank; Hon. Robert Mackay, Director Merchants' Bank of Canada; John Cassils, Director Merchants' Bank of Canada; Samuel Finley, Director Molsons Bank; Edmund B. Osler, M.P., President Dominion Bank, Toronto; Rev. R. H. Warden, D.D., General Agent and Treasurer Presbyterian Church in Canada, Toronto; Gaspard LeMoine, Director Quebec Bank; David Morrice, President Canadian Colored Cotton Mills Co.; H. N. Bate, H. N. Bate & Sons, Ottawa; T. G. Roddick, M.D., M.P., F.R.C.S.; David Burke, A.I.A., F.S.S., General Manager of the Company.

GREAT BRITAIN'S SHIPYARDS turned out last year 1,442,471 tons of vessels, against 861,692 tons of all other countries combined. The United States in this respect is making great headway, having in 1900 turned out a higher tonnage than Germany or France. The North German Lloyd Steamship Co. has declared a dividend of 8 1-2 per cent., and is raising more capital, so its huge vessels seem to be paying well.

THE MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., of New York, is about erecting a palatial structure in Paris, France, in which its offices will be located. It is said that on this site was the mansion where, in 1795, a ball was held, at which every one present had lost a relative by the guillotine, a gruesome association. The memories of mutual fate in death will be exorcised by agreeable experiences of the mutual advantages in life assurance conferred by the new occupants of this historic site.

WHY THE PREMIUM LOADING IS GREATER AT THE OLDER AGES.—Mr. Hershey, of Mansfield, Ohio, has a novel method of refuting the assessment position, that the old line loading, being a percentage of the net premium and larger at the older ages, is an injustice to the old man. He explains the case somewhat in this manner: "Assume a body of men setting out to obtain $1,000 insurance each, everyone to pay his just proportion under each item of cost until the service sought is completed. Say there are 1,000 men at age 60, to be designated as class A, 1,000 at 40 to be known as class B, and 1,000 at 30, class C. Life insurance is based upon averages. The average time for each class to live, that is the expectancy, is as follows: Class A, 14 years; class B, 28 years; class C, 35 years. In our company the loading on an ordinary life is as follows: Class A, $14.56; class B, $6.19; class C, $4.57. It follows that class A would contribute to expenses and contingencies during expectancy an average amount of $203.84; class B, $173.32; class C, $159.95. The old men contribute most, as they should do, the expenses in their case being greater. The premium of the old man is larger; hence commissions, renewal commissions, taxes on premiums, etc., are larger. The reserve at the older ages is greater, hence the expense of investing and caring for the same, the taxes on investments, etc., are greater. It is, therefore, clear that the difference between the total payments of A and C during the whole period, is not disproportionately great. Let us now consider the supposed 'perfectly equitable' assessment plan of an equal loading at all ages. Were the loadings set out above equalized, the average would be $8.44 per $1,000. On this basis, class A would contribute for necessary expenses and contingencies to complete the service, an average of $118.16; class B, $236.32, and class C, $295.40. Here is gross injustice, with the figures more than reversed."