

The Caledonian Insurance Company, which has or so many years been domiciled on St. François Xavier street, Montreal, will remove their offices to more commodious premises in the Temple Building on 1st May.

The lapsing of policies, in the opinion of the *Chronicle*, N.Y., will be much greater during 1894 than in any preceding year. Naturally. What else could be expected from an increasingly forced business, especially in such depressed times?

Results of fire underwriting by companies doing business in the State of New York, from organization to 1893, are tabulated by the *Weekly Underwriter*, from which we extract the following summary:—

	New York Companies.	Companies of other States.	Foreign Companies.
Total earned premiums..	\$543,981,424	\$904,580,932	\$436,372,034
Total losses.....	311,701,635	563,499,368	288,907,298
Per cent of losses to earned premiums.....	57.30	62.29	66.20
Total losses and expenses (33½ per cent)	500,732,902	\$75,039,095	442,597,444
Per cent. of losses and expenses to earned premiums.....	92.04	96.73	101.42

The fire record so far this year shows a welcome improvement, and none too early in the interests of underwriters. The *Commercial Bulletin's* estimate for the quarter ended 31st March, taken from its daily files, is shown in the following comparative statement:—

	1892.	1893.	1894.
January	\$12,564,900	\$17,958,400	\$10,568,400
February.....	11,914,000	9,919,500	11,297,600
March.....	10,648,000	16,662,350	9,147,100
Totals.....	\$35,126,900	\$44,540,650	\$31,013,100

An unusual number of properties of the better class are stated to have been burnt during the past three or four weeks, and no reason can be given to account for the increase.

The Standard Life Assurance Co.—On another page is published a summary statement of this excellent Company's results for the year 1893. The detailed report will appear in our next issue, but meantime it may be noted that good progress has been made in the main items. One notable feature of special interest to Canadians is the increasing investments, now amounting to nearly 10 million dollars, made by the Company in the Dominion. This is splendid evidence of the Standard's confidence in the securities and resources of Canada, and is deserving of reciprocal recognition on the part of the public. It is a strong, well conducted company, and its local manager, Mr. W. M. Ramsay, is a well-known figure in insurance circles in the Dominion, and deservedly esteemed for his many personal qualities.

The Lancashire Insurance Company, Manchester, held its forty-second annual meeting on the 9th ultimo. The report confirms the opinion of those who questioned the good judgment of the Company in taking over the large business in America in 1892. The chairman stated that an abnormally heavy loss had accrued from the transaction, but that as the result of the visit of the new general manager, Mr. Digby Johnson, no less than £160,000 of bad risks had been cancelled, large individual insurances had been cut down to safe and reasonable amounts, and a stringent revision had been made of the business. Under the strong administration of Mr. Johnson it is anticipated that a satisfactory improvement will be shown this year.

Tuberculous Victims in the United States number 163,500 annually. Of these, 141,000 are charged to consumption, 12,000 to tubercular meningitis, and 10,500 to scrofula. Each death is asserted to represent two years of sickness. That means that there are now 327,000 persons in the United States dying of tuberculosis. The money cost of this enemy of life is estimated to be greatly in excess of \$100,000,000. Statistics show that the ravages of tubercular diseases are being slowly reduced, and scientists are not altogether without hope of discovering a preventative or a remedy for a class of disease whose victims are more numerous than those of war.—*Sanitarium*.

The Citizens Life Assurance Company of Sydney, N. S. Wales, reports fairly favorable results for 1893—80,461 new policies were issued, 78,345 being industrial and 2,116 ordinary. The income was £133,445, an increase of £8,117 as compared with 1892. Death claims were very light, especially in the ordinary department for which the death rate averaged only a little over 3½ per 1000. A 4 per cent. Hm. valuation, mostly by "Sprague's method," having regard to initial expenses, resulted in the declaration of a surplus of £10,031, of which £4,253 was recommended by the actuary to be allotted as bonus additions at the rate of 2 per cent. on the sums assured.

The B. C. Board of Fire Underwriters at Victoria have been moving to get the Insurance Tax of \$300 repealed or reduced. A bill to reduce the amount to \$100 for each company was introduced in the legislature; but, as will be seen from the following extract from the *Victoria Daily Colonist*, was withdrawn on a point of order:

"Mr. Croft moved the second reading of the bill to amend the Fire Companies Aid Act so as to provide that there shall be payable to the municipal corporation the annual sum of not exceeding \$100 by each Fire Insurance Company doing business in Victoria, in addition to the rates levied upon agents. Hon. Mr. Beaven raised the point that the Act proposed to be amended had been passed as a private bill, and had been amended as a private bill, and could not now be amended in this way. The speaker said the point was well taken, it not being in order for a private member to amend a private Act without following the procedure laid down for private bills."

As it is now too late to bring in a private bill this session, the proposed action will have to be deferred for another year.

PERSONAL MENTION.

MR. G. H. LERMIT, assistant secretary of the Northern Assurance Company, England, is at present in Chicago.

MR. GEORGE H. BURDICK, the popular secretary of the Phoenix fire office of Hartford, spent some days in Montreal last week.

MR. J. B. MORISSETTE, the well-known insurance agent of Quebec, was in Montreal on the 11th instant. Mr. M. transacts a large and profitable business for his three companies.

MR. G. H. BURNETT, fire manager of the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company, is announced by the *Commercial Bulletin* to be expected in America shortly.

WE REGRET to announce the death of Mr. Peter McCallum, the well known insurance agent of St. Catharines, which took place on the 10th inst., at the age of 58 years. His bereaved family and friends have our sincere sympathy.

MR. T. B. MACAULAY, secretary and actuary of the Sun Life Assurance Company, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society of Great Britain. We congratulate Mr. Macaulay on this well merited honor.