FIRE INSURANCE PREMIUMS IN MONTREAL FOR 1909.

We publish our usual table giving the insurance premiums received in Montreal during the year 1909. The total being $2,155,867. The premiums received in 1907 were $2,275,000 and in 1908 $2,235,000. So that while the insured property has increased in value, the premiums have been reduced. The city tax of 1 p.c. amounts to $20,-089 53 and the tax for fire commissioners to $4,600 making a table of $24,689.53

COMPANY.	Premiums, 1909.	1 Per Cent Tax.	Fire Comm'rs Expenses.	Total.
	$	$ c.	$ c.	$ c.
Acadia	19 903	200	42.47	242.47
Ætna	40,897	408.97	87.26	496.23
Alliance	43.863	438.63	93.59	532.22
Atlas	44,699	446.99	95.38	542.37
British America	31,652	316.52	67.44	383.96
Caledonian	41,220	412.20	87.95	500.15
Commercial Union & Union Ass. Society	152,194	1,000	324.74	1,324.74
Connecticut	14,644	200	31.24	231.24
General	17,191	200	36.63	236 63
German American	32,027	320.27	68.34	388.61
Guardian	134,827	1.000	287.68	1,287.68
Hartford	32,735	327.35	69.85	397.20
Home	34,203	342.03	72.98	415.01
Law Union & Rock	11 694	200	24.96	224.96
Liverpool & L. & Globe	122,736	1,000	261.89	1 261.89
London & Lancashire	49,206	492.06	104.99	597.05
London Assurance	18,718	200	39 94	239 94
Manitoba	8,264	200	17.63	217.63
New York Underwriters	19 174	200	40.92	240.92
North America	68,677	686.77	146.55	833.32
North British	180,063	1,000	384 20	1,384.20
Northern	82,700	827	176 46	1,003.46
Norwich Union	46,028	460.28	98.23	558 51
Pacific Coast	5,169	200	11.03	211.03
Fidelity Phenix	44,513	445.13	94 98	540 11
Phœnix of Hartford	26,101	261.01	55 69	316 70
Phœnix of London	115,509	1,000	246.47	1,246 47
Quebec	9,015	200	19.23	219.23
Queen	62,536	625.36	133.44	758.80
Royal	186 619	1,000	398.19	1,398 19
Rochester German	15,461	200	33	233
Scottish Union	36,934	369.34	78 86	448 20
Sun	34,667	346.67	73 97	420.64
St. Paul	13,256	200	28 27	228 27
Western	85,402	854.02	182 22	1,036.24
Yorkshire	30,859	308.59	65.85	374 44
Mount Royal	75,84-	758 48	161 84	920.32
Dominion Fire	21,726	217.26	46 36	263.62
Equitable Fire	3.500	200	7.47	207 47
London Mutual	19,498	200	41.60	241.60
Ontario	9,618	200	20.56	220.56
Ottawa	18,799	200	40.09	240.09
Provincial	8,715	200	18.60	218.60
Rimouski	19,177	200	40.92	240.92
Equity	11,286	200	24.08	224.08
Anglo American	5,832	200	12.44	212.44
Montreal-Canada	42,460	424.60	90.59	515.19
Montmagny	6,061	200	12.93	212.93
Total	2,155,867	20,089.53	4,600 00	24,689.53

MR. H. M. LAMBERT, manager of the Guardian Assurance Company, has just returned from an extended trip to the West. He states that both business and financial conditions seem to be excellent. The Cities of Winnipeg and Calgary are growing rapidly, and a large number of settlers from both the Old Country and the United States are settling on the irrigation lands near Calgary. All that is wanted is a good rain fall to ensure a large crop this year. In addition to Winnipeg and Calgary, Mr. Lambert also visited several other points in the Northwest Territories.

THE TRUST & LOAN COMPANY OF CANADA.

Owing to the general expansion of the business of the Trust & Loan Company, the directors decided to issue £300,000 of new stock, thus making the subscribed capital £2,500,000. Allotment letters have been sent to the shareholders advising them of the new issue. According to the half-year statement the net profits for the half-year amounts to £31,000; the reserve fund now amounts to £254,700, while the special reserve fund has been increased to £50,000. These two funds show a total increase of £31,800 for the half-year. The directors have recommended a dividend at the rate of 6 p.c. per annum and a bonus of one per cent. for the half-year, which is equivalent to 8 p.c. per annum. Col. Edye, commissioner for Canada, is to be congratulated upon the progress made by the Trust & Loan Company.

MR. CHARLES L. CASE, PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK INSURANCE EXCHANGE, SPEAKS ON FIRE INSURANCE.

At the Fifteenth Annual Convention of the National Association of Manufacturers, held at the Waldorf, New York, on the 16th inst. Mr. Chas. L. Case spoke as follows:

"Rates," said Mr. Case in his talk on fire prevention, "are now made on the so-called schedule plan, by which each risk is charged for its defects and credited with its good points. Every improvement in structure, equipment, fire extinguishing appliances, or occupancy that decreases the probability of a fire originating in the premises insured, or reducing the probability of a fire spreading, is duly credited in the making of the rate of premium. Any general improvement such as the recent high pressure system of water supply here in New York and Brooklyn is always followed by an equitable reduction in rates. One effective means of fire prevention the National Board has assisted at an expense of $80,000 is sending 387 incendiaries to the penitentiaries of different States. By reducing the fire loss, we insurance companies can make more money for our shareholders—who require good dividends to leave their money in our risky business, and we can build up our reserves that we shall surely need to meet the next Baltimore or San Francisco incident—for these incidents recur, and must be provided for as much in the policyholders' interest as in the shareholders. The increasing area of buildings, the increasing height of buildings, the introduction of dangerous processes, the inadequately controlled electric hazard, and the fact that cities outgrow their fire protection, are operating to increase fire waste. Our loss ratio is still several times higher per person than of any other country.

"We desire to deal fairly with the public, not only to meet legal obligations, but to do all we can to safeguard property, and incidentally lives, against this preventable fire peril."

THE DIRECTORS OF THE GUARDIAN ASSURANCE COMPANY propose a dividend of 6s. per £10 share (£5 paid), making, with the interim dividend paid in January, 10s. per share, or 10 per cent. for the year, being the same rate as last year.