

With grateful acknowledgment for their confidence to the holders of its 9,960,106 Policies, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company presents the following summary of its condition and affairs for the year ended December 31, 1908, showing it to have been THE BEST YEAR IN THE COMPANY'S HISTORY

RESOURCES

United States, City and R. R. Bonds, and Stocks . . .	\$99,630,935.56
Bonds and Mortgages	90,795,319.02
Real Estate	22,444,627.78
Demand Loans on Collateral	2,192,702.00
Cash	4,775,988.79
Loans to Policy-holders	8,966,362.78
Premiums, deferred and in course of collection (net) . . .	5,300,922.97
Accrued Interest, Rents, etc.	2,820,502.29
	\$236,927,361.19

A REASONABLE INDICATION OF THE DESERVED POPULARITY of its plans and of faith in its management may be fairly claimed in the number of Metropolitan policies in force. It is not only greater than that of any other company in America, but greater than that of all the other regular companies combined, less one. It exceeds, in fact, the COMBINED POPULATION of 24 of the States and Territories out of the 52 forming the American Union; and as to CITIES, it exceeds the combined population of Greater New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, New Orleans and Buffalo.

The Company OF the People,

Metropolitan

(INCORPORATED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK. STOCK COMPANY)

THE DAILY AVERAGE of Business During 1908 was
441 per day in Number of Claims Paid.
6,343 per day in Number of Policies Placed and Paid for.
\$1,202,352.87 per day in New Insurance Placed and Paid for.
\$166,633.89 per day Paid Policy-holders and Added to Reserve.
\$126,996.37 per day in Increase of Assets.

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT

INSURANCE IN FORCE, \$526,939,378

The Company issues policies for from \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 on individual lives, premiums payable quarterly, semi-annually or annually. All policies are non-participating. They are plain business contracts which tell their whole story on their face; leave nothing to the imagination; borrow nothing from hope; require definite conditions and make definite promises in dollars and cents.

PREMIUMS ARE LOWER THAN ARE OFFERED BY ANY OTHER COMPANY

In the Intermediate Branch policies are adapted to the working classes. Each policy is for \$500 and the rate lower than that offered by the Savings Bank system of Massachusetts. Two of the Metropolitan's Intermediate forms recently standardized by the New York and Massachusetts Departments provide for attractive combinations of insurance and annuities at the lowest rates offered anywhere.

Amount of Canadian securities deposited with the Dominion Government for the protection of policy-holders in Canada, over \$5,500,000.

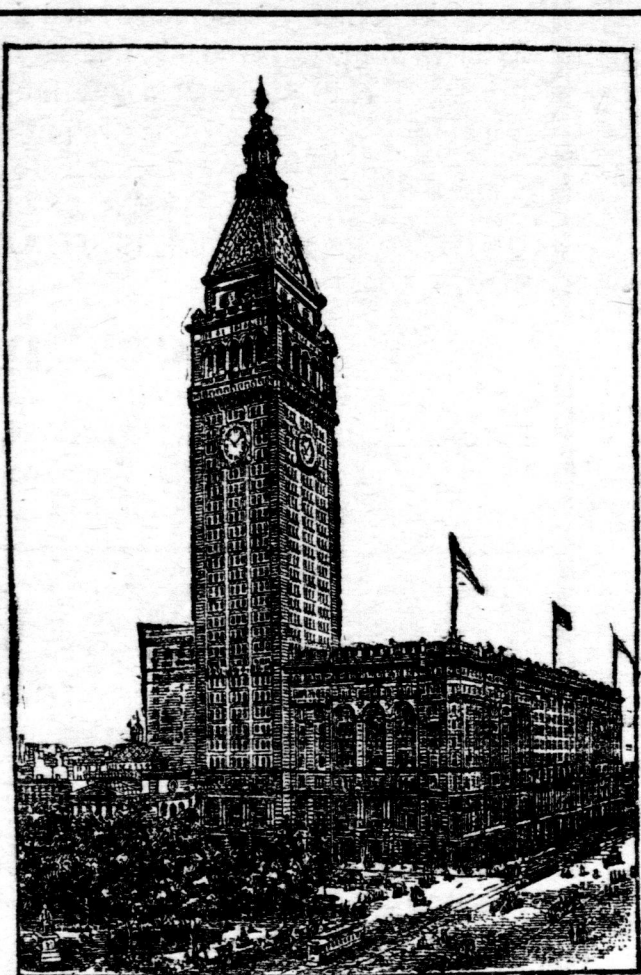
ASSETS, \$236,927,361.19

The Metropolitan paid its Policy-holders in 1908 for Death Claims, Endowments, Annuities, Paid-up Policies, Dividends, Bonuses, etc., with the amount set aside on their behalf as increased Reserve

\$50,656,701.34

It has paid to its Policy-holders since organization, plus the amount invested and now on hand for their security

\$470,366,769.36



HOME OFFICE BUILDING
The largest Office Building in the world; Madison Ave., 4th Ave., 23d and 24th Sts., New York City

The Ratio of Expense to Premium Income was the Lowest in the Company's History

being over 8 per cent. less than five years ago and more than 15 per cent. less than ten years ago

The Company wrote more business in 1908 than any other Company in the world, and this for the fifteenth consecutive year

The number of policies paid in 1908 averaged one for each sixty-five seconds of each business day of 8 hours, and in amount \$128.48 a minute, the year through. The value and timeliness of its policy payments may be gleaned from the fact that the claims paid during the year, 3,479 were under policies less than three months old, 6,890 were on policies under 6 months, and 12,896 were within the first year of insurance.

H. T. TINNEY, Superintendent, Masonic Temple, Richmond and King Streets, London, Ont.
E. H. SINK, Dr. Asst., Dominion Bank Bldg., St. Thomas, Ont.
ROBT. FLATTERY, Dr. Asst., Kelley Block, 89 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ont.

OBLIGATIONS

Dividends Apportioned, payable 1909, on Participating Policies, Intermediate Branch	\$1,382,722.00
Same on Participating Policies, Ordinary Dept.	104,203.73
(NOTE: Nearly all this Company's Ordinary Policies are Non-Participating—issued at low rates of premium.)	
Bonuses Apportioned, payable 1909, on Industrial Policies	2,650,000.00
	\$4,136,925.73
Reinsurance Fund and Special Reserve	208,134,891.00
All other Liabilities	2,532,637.34
Capital and Surplus	22,122,907.12
	\$236,927,361.19

The Metropolitan has more premium paying business in force in the United States than any other company.

The Metropolitan has in force one-third of all the legal reserve policies in force in the United States. Its Industrial policies in force nearly equal in number all the Industrial policies of all the other companies in the country combined.

BY the People, FOR the People

Life Ins. Co.

JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President

COMPARISONS, ETC.

Income in 1908	\$76,732,343.24
Gain over 1907	\$3,618,182.35
Surplus in 1908	\$22,122,907.12
Increase over 1907	\$8,171,007.98
Total Number of Policies in Force	9,960,106
Gain over 1907	340,097
Total Amount Outstanding Insurance,	\$1,861,890,803.00

INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT

INSURANCE IN FORCE, \$1,334,951,425

Number of Industrial policies in force, 9,301,001—insuring over six and a half millions of individual lives in the families of wage-earners. While the contracts are and always have been non-participating, the Company will this year have spent nearly EIGHTEEN millions of dollars in voluntary bonuses and concessions to the holders of these policies in thirteen years.

Cash bonuses on all whole life policies are annually allowed, amounting to over 8 per cent. of the premiums for a year. Additions of from 5 to 30 per cent. are made to policies maturing as claims, according to time policies have persisted. By the Company's present practice whole life policies are made free after age 75 or paid as endowments at age 80.

Industrial Insurance is Family Insurance, covering all ages from 1 to 70 on life, endowment and annuity plans.

PLAN CAMPAIGN FOR PROHIBITION

Royal Templars' Grand Council
Think Sentiment Is Ripe For It

Toronto, Feb. 18.—The Ontario Grand Council of the Royal Templars of Temperance at its closing session today passed the following resolution: "Believing that public sentiment in Ontario is ripe for the enactment of legislation entirely abolishing the bar, we would urge upon each select council a most active campaign to secure such legislation."

It was stated that it is the intention of the order to commence a prohibition campaign just as soon as local option had been secured in two-thirds of the Province.

Election of officers followed, with this result: Grand councillor, Rev. P. Fletcher, Drayton; grand past councillor, W. J. Armstrong, West Toronto; grand vice-councillor, Mrs. S. H. Welsh, Pictou; grand chaplain, Rev. C. R. Spencer, Pusey; grand secretary, W. N. McMillan, Hamilton; grand medical referee, Dr. Wm. Crawford, Hamilton.

The council adopted a resolution expressing appreciation of the action of the Ontario Government in the administration of the license act in New Ontario.

The council recommended also that the temperance workers in local option districts should try to provide suitable places to supply the legitimate social enjoyment otherwise found in bar-rooms.

Toronto was selected for next year's convention.

CLINTON.

Rev. W. E. Kerr, who is closing a very successful four years' pastorate in the Ontario Street Methodist Church, has accepted a unanimous invitation to the Methodist Church in Tillsonburg.

Rev. T. W. Cosens, of Wallaceburg, has been unanimously invited to the pastorate of Ontario Street Church of this town. Mr. Cosens has accepted, subject to the action of the stationing committee.

ENGLAND'S POOR

Commission Says a Degenerate Race Is Being Produced.

New York, Feb. 18.—A special to Times from London says: "The royal commission, which for last three years has been studying the condition of the English poor under existing laws, issued a report of 1,400 pages.

"Lord George Hamilton, chairman of the commission, says: 'The serious feature of the report is the deliberate statement that the conditions of life in London and other big towns are such as to produce a degenerate race, morally and physically enfeebled.'

"The last year the poor of England and Wales received public relief to the amount of £14,000,000.

"Yesterday also the registrar-general issued his quarterly report, which showed that the birth rate of England and Wales for the last quarter of 1908 was 24.6 per annum per 1,000. This is 2.4 below the mean birth rate of the preceding four quarters, and the lowest ever recorded for a corresponding quarter."

DONALD MACKAY DEAD

"Grand Old Man" of Drygoods Trade Passes Away at Toronto.
Toronto, Feb. 18.—Donald Mackay, head of the drygoods firm of Gordon, Mackay & Co., died at his residence in Queen's Park this morning at the age of 94 years. He was known as "the grand old man" of the drygoods trade in Canada. Mr. Mackay was born at Kildonan, Sutherlandshire, Scotland, in 1815, and came to Canada in 1836. For a number of years he resided in Montreal, where he began his business career. In 1848 he moved to Hamilton, where, with his nephew, John Gordon, he laid the foundation of the firm of Gordon & Mackay. In 1859 the firm moved to Toronto. In 1877 Hugh Mackay joined the firm, the name of which was then changed to Gordon, Mackay & Co. Mr. Mackay was vice-president of the Ontario Bank.

He was also a director of the London and Canadian Loan and Agency Company, and was identified with several other enterprises.

Mr. Mackay leaves three sons and one daughter, one of the sons being Capt. Drummond Mackay.

GEN. BLANCO WAS FULL OF FIGHT

But the Spanish Government Ordered the Capitulation of Santiago.

Madrid, Feb. 18.—The bitter controversy aroused last week by the publication here of some cablegrams exchanged between General Blanco at Havana, and the Government at Madrid, regarding the surrender of the city of Santiago, Cuba, to General Shafter on July 17, 1898, has been further envenomed by the appearance of a fresh batch of messages which demonstrate that the Government, when it found that Blanco was unalterably opposed to surrender, communicated directly with General Toral the commander at Santiago, giving him a free hand to make terms.

General Blanco on July 14, telegraphed Toral that he would try to relieve Santiago, and instructing him to insist that General Shafter allow the Spanish garrison to retire to Holguin or return to Spain on Spanish ships, as otherwise Spain would continue the defense. "Regarding your suggestion," General Blanco said further to General Toral, "that someone must be found to assume the responsibility for this situation, I repeat that I am responsible for everything that has occurred in Cuba since Oct. 1 last."

The same day General Blanco cabled Madrid that the junction of the third army corps with the Santiago garrison, had become impossible, but that Toral must not surrender except on honorable conditions. Madrid, thereupon, authorized Toral to treat independently of Blanco, but Blanco asserting this, sent a telegram warning Toral that he could not include the entire fourth army corps in the surrender as the other garrisons were capable of holding out. Nevertheless, General Toral on July 17, surrendered the whole army corps with its war material.

In transmitting the announcement of this surrender to Madrid, Blanco reproached the Government, saying he could have prevented it upon the terms made. He added: "In spite of times intact twmfwp acmtfypaph its dismemberment the army continues intact, and the war can be continued."

The Correspondence, which pub-

PURCHASING AGENT TO BE A WITNESS

G. T. P. Man to Explain Certain Expenditures—Railway Committee Has a Session.

Ottawa, Feb. 18.—At the first meeting of the public accounts committee today for general business the Opposition called for the production of papers relating to various transactions in the Intercolonial Railway, the Trent Canal, and the National Transcontinental Railway.

Mr. A. L. Ogilvie, purchasing agent of the Transcontinental commission, will be called next week.

At today's meeting of the railway committee two years' extension of time was granted to the Kootenay Central Railway Company.

Bills respecting union stations at Fort William and Portage la Prairie were referred to a special committee.

The committee also consented to an extension of time to the Winnipeg and Northwestern Railway, with the qualification that 25 miles shall be built the first year. The bill, however, was held over until the next meeting of the committee.

GRAND TRUNK AND THIRD-CLASS FARES

Company May Ask to Have Two-Cent Enactment Cancelled.
Montreal, Feb. 18.—The Grand Trunk Railway officials, when sent to regarding the privy council decision that third-class passengers on at least one train a day between Toronto and Montreal, at the rate of two cents a mile, said they could not make any announcement regarding the judgment until they had received a full copy of it.

Interviews with the leading officials indicated, however, that the company would, as quickly as possible, try to get the Government to do away with the two-cent rate enactment in the incorporation, and they thought the Government would readily grant it, because the company's chief competitor, the C. P. R., was not in any such rule.

MR. ROSS IS NOT PLAYING A GAME

President of Coal Company, Once Beaten, Is Sincere in His Efforts for Peace.

Montreal, Que., Feb. 18.—Fresh developments in the Dominion Steel and Coal situation are occurring all the time. When the local interests and traders had had time to consider the offer the Dominion Coal directors had made to the Steel Company, they decided that the Steel directors would surely accept one of the late offers made by the Coal Company, because the offer was made by the Steel directors had been claiming that all they wanted was the old contract.

As far as the stocks were concerned, the surprise of the day was the indication of some weakness in Dominion Steel, common, while Steel, preferred, was showing great strength. Traders were at a loss to explain the difference in the movements of the two stocks and claimed at the conclusion that some interests must have been depressing Iron, common, with a view of accumulating a larger amount of it. Steel, preferred, after opening at par, made a good advance to 105, the advance being made with comparatively little stocks coming out.

Dominion Coal, common, continued firm opening at 59 and selling later at 57.

Ross Is Sincere.
Mr. James Ross, the president of the Dominion Coal Company here, fought the Steel Company so bitterly and ardently that some local financial interests have been asking themselves if there is not something behind the offer he made to the Steel Company to renege the position in which they were before the first trouble started. One leading interest, however, states emphatically that from the moment Mr. Ross became aware of the privy council's judgment, he has been anxious to comply with it in its entirety, and on this account get as many directors together at as early a date as possible in order to take action.

Plummer Has Power.
While Senator Forget, the largest interest in Steel, is now in Europe, it is learned today that his absence will not in any way delay negotiations, as he was anxious for any fair settlement with the Coal Company, and had left matters entirely in Mr. Plummer's hands.

SEWER GAS, NOT POISON

Caused Death of One and Sickness of Others in Restaurant.

Montreal, Feb. 18.—That the death of Thomas Green and serious illness of four other men yesterday was not caused by strychnine poisoning, as was supposed yesterday, was definitely established this morning.

The men were found in an unconscious condition in a little luncheon room in Cathedral street, and it was supposed that the coffee which they had been drinking was poisoned. It developed this morning, however, that one of the men, Edward Saunders, had not had anything to eat or drink in the place before being taken sick.

Chief Detective Carpentier made a personal investigation of the premises this morning, and found that the death of Green had been caused by sewer gas. The little place was closed up when the detectives and a small crowd of newspapermen visited it this morning. The key was obtained and the men passed inside. Two minutes later they were glad to make a dive for the open air. The place was filled with gas from a sewer, and its effects were felt in immediately.

By opening a door and window the gas was cleared out, but after the little room had been closed up for five minutes it was again found to be full of the deadly gas.

The men, who were overcome yesterday, were all reported to be making good progress this morning, and it is not likely that any of the others will succumb.

COMING TO TERMS

German Merchants Seek Better Commercial Understanding With Canada.

London, Feb. 18.—Germany is evidently much in earnest in the desire to draw closer to Canada. A German Canadian Economic Association has been formed in Berlin under the presidency of Dr. Stresemann, a member of the Reichstag, and chairman of the Association of Saxon Manufacturers, to secure the removal of the Canadian duties in return for Germany's extension of her continental tariff to Canadian goods with ulterior hopes of a wider reaching reciprocal tariff after the pattern of the Franco-Canadian convention.

German exporters hope thus to overcome the British preference.

Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, home secretary, replying to Dr. Stresemann

on behalf of the German Government, states: "Our relations with Canada formed for some time past is the object of our most earnest attention. There is no hindrance on the part of Germany to bringing about an understanding which will permit the entry of the products of each land into the other under favorable conditions. So far the steps taken for this purpose have led to no result. I cherish, however, the hope that once again the Canadian market will be made accessible to Germany and the German market to Canada."

LATTER DAY SAINTS

Maitland Street Congregation to Erect a New Church.

At a special business meeting held by the Maitland Street Latter Day Saints, it was decided to appoint a committee to collect funds for the building of a new church. Tenders were read for the renovating of the interior of the old church building, and the contract awarded.

Elder Fred Gregory, of St. Marys, a forcible, logical, interesting and spiritual preacher, is expected here to commence a series of meetings, lasting a month or more, on Feb. 28.

A special advertising committee was appointed to extensively advertise the series of gospel services, which are expected to do much good.

AUSTRIAN FOR UMPIRE

Dr. Lamasch to Preside Over the Fisheries Tribunal.

London, Feb. 18.—Dr. Heinrich Lamasch, an eminent Austrian jurist and professor in the University of Vienna, has been proposed as umpire of the arbitration court to which it is intended to submit the Newfoundland fisheries questions.

FORETOLD HIS DEATH.

Toronto, Feb. 18.—Hugh C. Wilson, the brakeman who was killed on Sunday morning at Chapleau in a rear-end collision, knew the day before that he was doomed to die. On Saturday he wrote a letter to his wife stating that accidents were becoming frequent, and that he felt that he was going to be the next to be killed. He gave no reason for his belief, only stating that he was almost sure that he was going to be killed in a wreck. The letter had not reached his wife when the rear-end collision occurred and he was killed. A peculiar circumstance is that no one else on the train was even injured.