

THE REPORT OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF RHODE ISLAND, Fire and Marine, 1901. There were 15 companies withdrew from the State last year and 5 admitted. The Commissioner says: "The rigid enforcement of all fire ordinances by cities and towns, and the creation of the office of fire marshal by the State would materially reduce the fire waste." The total amount insured is stated as \$165,521,760; total premiums, \$1,370,992, on which taxes were levied to extent of \$27,461. Were the tables in this report summarized, they would be more readily understood and the insurance situation in Rhode Island more clearly shown.

REPORT ON LIFE INSURANCES BY MR. A. I. VORYS, Superintendent of Insurance, Ohio. Last year the 46 regular life companies in Ohio wrote 352,778 policies, carrying \$116,011,935 of insurance. The total in force, "ordinary," was \$432,590,453, and "individual" \$95,135,634.

REPORT OF INSURANCE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF WASHINGTON, 1901, by Deputy Insurance Commissioner. In 1901 and up to May 1, 1902, 12 fire companies withdrew from this State. In 1901 the American fire companies had \$81,338,268 gross risks written, and the foreign companies, \$71,926,055.

LARGEST SINGLE LOSS IN HISTORY OF HARTFORD.—The loss on the Capewell Horseshoe Nail Co. has been finally estimated at \$563,000, over \$200,000 in excess of the first figures given out. This, says the "Standard," is the largest individual loss in the history of Hartford. "The insurance was only \$180,000. The risk was considered what might be called 'gilt-edge,' the most conservative agents in Hartford advising their companies to write large lines on it. In fact this plant was one of the show risks of the city, and when managers called on their local representatives they were taken to visit it. Not long since, a vice-president and manager of one of the largest western companies, while visiting the East, went to Hartford and was shown this risk. So enthusiastic was the local agent that he wanted permission to place double the amount of insurance then held. Fortunately the officer of the company and its eastern manager were obdurate, and thus the company is in about \$10,000."

BARON MUNCHAUSEN'S mantle has apparently fallen upon the editor of a Hartford paper. He narrates that, a mass of pig iron in the open air was melted by the heat of a fire in an adjacent building, which cost the company in which it was insured \$6,000! Pig iron is a marvellous article to be insured against fire, and \$6,000 worth of it as an insurance risk must have weighed 600 tons; at full price, it would take 300 tons to represent \$6,000. Even if the pigs had melted the loss would have been only the cost of breaking them up in the new form taken when flowing away, for pig iron does not go up in smoke, or evaporate when in a state of flux. Our contemporary should try again; his pig iron yarn is indigestible.

A WAIL has gone up from a plate-glass risk underwriter who lays the responsibility of breakages upon small boys, tramps, burglars, careless expressmen. He says:—"I have no hesitation in saying that our greatest loss each year in this city comes from the small boy. If we could get proper police protection we could cut the loss in half

the first year, but we can't seem to get that." Police protection in this city is most difficult to get except by sudden "fits and starts," the energy of which evaporates quickly. Although Fletcher's Field affords every convenience for games, the boys within a few hundred yards of this ground are a perpetual nuisance to housekeepers, over whose fences they climb, whose windows they break, whose peace they disturb by yelling (what fun would base-ball be without shouting?) and general disorderliness, not omitting lighting fires close to fences. Police protection being asked it is given one evening, then withdrawn, and pandemonium again reigns, and more windows are smashed to the small and big boy's delight.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

Wednesday, p.m., July 30, 1902.

Dominion Steel Common is once more the leading stock in activity in the market and has had a rapid advance in price. The underlining cause of this advance is not apparent, but the reports of the progress of the Company are most gratifying, and the undoubtedly good future of the enterprise is, no doubt, being discounted. A generally prevailing expectation of a decided gain in price of this stock in the fall has been evident for some time past, and as soon as the stock started to move upward, a good buying movement set in. The stock will no doubt see higher figures, but in view of the recent rise a reaction is not improbable. C. P. R. has reacted from the week's highest but closed better than the low level, and the new stock has been in good demand. Twin City is also fairly active, and Detroit Railway is a strong favourite at advancing prices. The newly listed Toledo Railway Stock shows a good volume of transactions and has gained several points since the first transaction. The market generally is a good one, but a certain nervousness is at times noticeable.

Call money in New York, to-day was $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 per cent., while the London rate was $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3. The Montreal rate continues unchanged at $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent.

The quotations for money at continental points are as follows:—

	Market.	Bank.
Paris.....	2 5-16	3
Berlin.....	$1\frac{1}{4}$	3
Hamburg.....	1 5-8	3
Frankfort.....	1 11-16	8
Amsterdam.....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	3
Vienna.....	2 3-8	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Brussels.....	$2\frac{1}{4}$	3

C. P. R. after selling at 139 $\frac{1}{4}$ during the early part of the week declined to 135 $\frac{1}{2}$, but has since recovered and closed with 137 bid on transactions for the week of 4,780 shares. The new stock was in good demand and was traded in to the extent of 3,380 shares, closing with 133 $\frac{1}{4}$ bid. This is a loss of a full point from last week's quotation on the old stock and of $\frac{1}{2}$ point on the new. The earnings for the third week of July show an increase of \$47,000.

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The Grand Trunk Railway Company's earnings for the third week of July show an increase of \$62,452. The stock quotations, as compared with a week ago, are as follows:—

	A week ago.	To-day.
First Preference.....	107 $\frac{1}{2}$	107 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second Preference.....	91 5-8	92 1-8
Third Preference.....	39 7-8	40 $\frac{1}{4}$