

IN FIRST MAY COST 21.7 P.C.

Three great Canadian railway companies have been up to much advantage in the comparison with the corresponding figures of April, 1915, there was a decrease of 21.7 per cent. Here are the figures of the first of the year:

1914.	Decrease %
\$1,550,000	534,000 28.3
\$1,550,000	242,000 15.4
\$1,772,000	381,000 21.5
\$2,584,000	65,000 2.5
\$1,752,000	312,000 17.8
\$1,733,000	95,000 5.7
\$1,795,000	182,000 10.1
\$1,902,000	235,000 12.3
\$2,168,000	427,000 19.2
\$3,096,000	527,000 17.2
\$2,237,000	471,000 21.0
\$2,134,000	523,000 24.5
\$2,100,000	786,000 37.4
\$2,860,000	476,000 16.6
\$2,119,000	525,000 24.8

unk Railway.

\$797,908	\$53,746	6.8
\$93,119	24,714	26.5
\$79,948	84,118	9.5
\$1,255,798	194,032	15.4
\$873,333	87,189	9.9
\$85,432	51,177	5.9
\$53,382	30,146	5.6
\$48,564	50,477	5.3
\$90,706	48,555	5.3
\$1,016,038	159,841	15.6
\$1,044,181	186,244	17.8
\$1,462,696	15,727	1.0
\$1,041,360	33,940	3.1
\$1,025,515	160,857	15.6
\$93,502	123,730	12.2
\$1,315,790	52,762	4.0
\$78,178	114,983	11.8

thern Railway.

\$364,700	\$153,200	43.7
\$62,800	123,000	33.8
\$12,300	101,000	32.3
\$530,200	236,000	44.3
\$303,100	70,200	23.9
\$12,700	56,200	18.9
\$36,600	42,600	12.4
\$17,200	50,300	13.4
\$19,400	35,700	11.1
\$30,500	36,700	11.1
\$30,600	36,060	8.9
\$52,400	55,300	10.9
\$17,000	35,300	8.3
\$67,400	25,000	6.7
\$66,000	45,000	12.1
\$50,400	75,700	11.9
\$423,400	762,883	21.7

CITY PROPERTY VALUED AT \$850,440,637 FOR PAST YEAR

More Than in 1913, But Non-taxable Valuation Has Increased by \$34,402,261— Nearly Quarter of Total is Exempt.

While the total assessed value of property in Montreal has increased by \$58,627,392 for 1914, as compared with 1913, \$34,402,261 of this amount is composed of an increase in the value of holdings exempt from taxation. There is now \$215,152,000 of such property, out of a total assessment roll of \$850,440,637. The untaxed property is nearly a quarter of the total.

Taxable property for 1914, according to a report of Mr. J. H. Ferns, chairman of the City Board of Assessors, amounted to \$635,288,376, an increase of \$24,224,755 over 1913; the total valuation was \$850,440,637, an increase of \$58,627,392. St. George's Ward leads all others with a net valuation of \$88,333,000, an increase of 6.76 per cent. The exempted valuation is \$234,339,000. Among the wards showing the most marked increases as compared with the previous year were: Delorimier Ward, 50 per cent.; Bordeau Ward, 27 per cent.; Notre Dame-de-Grace Ward, 17 per cent.; Emard Ward, 25 per cent.; Hochelaga Ward, 11 per cent. The foregoing is the increase in the lower wards, but property in the older wards was increased slightly. For example, in West Ward it was 3.42 per cent.; in St. Lawrence, 1.13; in St. Joseph, 1.13; St. George's 6.76; and St. Andrews, 2.45 per cent. increase.

The report estimates the city population last year at 629,000, and gives the area in acres at 26,268. The real estate assessment for each inhabitant is \$1,371. The number of vacant lots in Montreal last year was 107,378, and the number of improved lots 58,000. The total number of electors was 137,000.

In another statement Mr. Ferns shows assessments of the large corporations of the city. The total valuation of the Montreal Tramways Company is given at \$5,489,000; the Grand Trunk Railway System at \$5,745,000; the Canadian Pacific Railway, \$17,572,000; the Canadian Northern, \$4,715,000; the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Co., \$4,160,000; the Montreal Service Corporation, \$534,000; the Montreal Water and Power Co., \$2,645,000; and the Bell Telephone Company, \$2,871,000.

The property of the city of Montreal leads all in the exemptions from taxation, which amount to \$44,000,000. The Harbor Commission follows with \$21,000,000; the Catholic schools, \$29,000,000; the Protestant schools, \$12,861,000; Catholic churches, \$11,000,000; Protestant churches, \$8,969,000; Catholic benevolent institutions, \$16,000,000; Protestant benevolent institutions, \$7,635,000; the Dominion Government, \$17,650,000; the Provincial Government, \$5,670,000; and exempt by law or by agreement, \$17,294,000.

WOULD BAN GERMAN AGENTS.

At the weekly meeting of the council of the Board of Trade yesterday, it was decided to ask that the Government enforce more strict supervision over enemy agents in Canada, and also that more stringent measures should be taken to keep hostiles out of the country.

No suggestion was made as to the steps thought proper in the premises, this being left with the Government, but it was evident that the intention of the Council was that steps should be taken which would prevent the intrusion of any more German agents into Canada.

PERSONALS

Mr. G. Schofield, of Toronto, is at the Windsor.

Mr. J. A. Scitote, of Quebec, is at the Place Viger.

Lieut.-Col. Lafferty, of Quebec, is at the Ritz-Carlton.

Dr. Charles Sarolea, of Edinburgh, is at the Ritz-Carlton.

Mr. George Ham has returned from his trip to California and the South.

Mr. J. W. Griffin, of New York, one of the attorneys in the Storstad case, is in town.

Among the Montrealers at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, yesterday were Messrs. F. E. Meredith, Graham Drinkwater, F. L. Wanklyn, F. A. Veitch, J. W. Peck and F. A. Rodden.

The following were introduced on 'Change at the Board of Trade yesterday: Messrs. J. Sandeman Allen and J. Ferguson, Liverpool, Eng., and T. McMurry, Toronto, by Mr. Wm. Cairns; Mr. S. J. Cherry, Preston, Ont., by Mr. J. L. Smith; Mr. F. H. B. Fisher, New Zealand, by Mr. R. M. Ballantyne.



CONTROLLER E. N. HEBERT. Who is in charge of the city's finances, and who anticipated trouble with the revenue. The latest assessment roll shows that almost a quarter of the property in Montreal is not taxed.

PRUSSIAN CO.'S STATEMENT.

The home office statement of the Prussian National Insurance Company of Stettin, Germany, as of December 31, 1914, shows a net profit in the marine department of 190,870 marks, as against 119,909 marks for 1913. The fire department shows a net profit of 666,185 marks, as against \$89,910 marks in 1913. The net profit of the accident department was 59,964 marks, as against 61,679 marks in 1913. The burglary department shows a net profit of 41,211 marks, compared with 29,948 marks in 1913. The liability department made a net profit of 136,495 marks in comparison with 77,247 marks in 1913. The sprinkler leakage department exhibits a net profit of 41,211 marks as against 1,188,360 marks in 1913. Dividends were declared of 33 1-3 per cent after setting aside special contingent reserves of \$35,000 marks, as compared with 160,750 marks in 1913.

WON'T PAY WAR RISK LOSS.

UNLESS CAUSE ESTABLISHED

Some of the Russian marine companies have advised their policyholders that they will not pay a war risk loss unless the cause of loss can be established. This means that if a vessel is missing, whether from a peril of the sea or from the result of hostilities, without proof of the cause, no claim will attach to the policy. As a consequence of this, inquiries are being made in London to insure the risk which the Russian companies propose to exclude.

REALTY OWNERS TROUBLED BY GROWING CIVIC EXPENDITURE

Fear Increased Taxes and Civic Organization to Investigate Matters is Recommended—Big Decrease in Transfers Compared With Last Year.

There has been little or no change in the real estate situation during the past month, and if any tendency exists towards a general revival of business it is impossible to find any indications of such a tendency in the real estate and building market, says the current issue of the Cradock Simpson Real Estate Record in its monthly review.

The real estate transactions during the first four months of the current year, as represented by the official records, show a great falling off as compared with the same period of the preceding year. The following summary of registered sales gives the comparative figures for each month:

	1914.	1915.
January	786 \$8,282,147	640 \$4,447,953
February	999 9,548,914	666 6,212,121
March	1155 10,008,079	702 4,295,503
April	1040 8,811,355	658 4,459,242
3980	\$36,650,536	2666 \$19,454,219

This decrease is the result partly of the inactivity in building, and partly of the total absence of speculative activity in real estate.

The renting situation has been rather unsatisfactory as regards both residential and business properties but not more so than one would expect from existing conditions. A better time to gauge the supply and demand will be about the first of November when the city people are settled for the winter.

Money appears to be somewhat easier and the general outlook rather better, the current rates of interest being from six and a half to seven per cent. Borrowers who are encountering difficulties are those who want to renew loans on properties in sections which have depreciated in value and who want as much as they obtained when higher valuations were in order. There is plenty of money available for loans on realty when the margin of security is amply sufficient.

Real estate owners view with anxiety the increasing civic expenditure which will lead in all probability to an increase of taxation. The taxpayers should have some organization, similar to the Bureau of Municipal Research in New York, to enable them to fix the responsibility for extravagance or waste and to get at the actual facts as to the financial condition of the city. Perhaps some existing civic organization would undertake the work if sufficiently backed up by the taxpayers. It has been well said that the honest, efficient, and economical use of the revenue of a city directly affects every square foot of realty therein.

TENDENCY OF WAR RISK RATES UPWARD

Market Still Demoralized by Lusitania Disaster and Considerable Advances are Quoted

FEAR NEW CRIMES LIKELY

Underwriters are Delaying New Business—Schedules on Shipments to United Kingdom Now on Basis of 2 to 3 1/2 per cent.

New York, May 12.—The war risk insurance market continues to be in a state of practical demoralization as a result of the sinking of the Cunard liner Lusitania by a German submarine. Despite the profound sensation which the disaster caused here last Friday, rates being quoted on a basis of from 3 to 5 per cent. immediately following the receipt of the news, on freight in British bottoms to points in the United Kingdom or other European ports via the United Kingdom operations were being made by many of the local underwriters yesterday on an actual basis of from 2 to 3 1/2 per cent.

War risk schedules yesterday were being quoted at 2 per cent. to London, 1 1/2 per cent. to Liverpool, 2 1/2 per cent. to Ireland, the east coast of England (Hull), and Scotland, to the East Coast of Liverpool, 2 per cent. to Europe between Havre and Gibraltar (France), 1 1/2 per cent. These quotations were made by some of the underwriters on shipments to go forward in British bottoms. Some of the other underwriters who view the situation following the successful submarine attack on the Lusitania even more seriously, were asking for 2 1/2 and as high as 3 1/2 per cent. on shipments in British vessels to all ports in or via the United Kingdom.

Aside from the United Kingdom schedules on war risk insurance, the local market reflected no changes in the rates applying on shipments of all bottoms quoted in these columns last week. Rates to the Mediterranean are still on a basis of 1 1/2 per cent. on low range, to Greece three-eighths, to China, Japan and other Far Eastern countries four-eighths, to the West Indies one-eighth, Brazil three-eighths, and the River Plate at one-half of 1 per cent.

Expect More Outrages.

It is now asserted in the insurance market that should the German submarine record another important victim in the form of one of the fast transatlantic English passenger and cargo vessels, the United Kingdom schedules will be placed on an immediate basis of 5 per cent. There are indications that the underwriters expect further attacks on transatlantic passenger vessels within the next few days.

This is shown by the fact that in many instances the underwriters were trying to get shippers applying to them for insurance on their freight booked for foreign shipments on British vessels to hold off for a week or ten days.

In some cases shippers who brought in applications for war risk insurance on shipments as far ahead as June 15 were advised to postpone their applications for a few days at least, in the hope that either lower rates than those now prevailing may be granted them, or the underwriters more properly protected by applying even higher rates, if the submarines pursue their tactics against other passenger steamers.

It is the view of the underwriters that the United States will not become involved in actual warfare with the Germans. They advance nothing definite for this belief except the expectation that President Wilson may issue an ultimatum in strongly couched language warning Germany that further attacks on American lives or property will be followed by a declaration of war by this country. It is believed that this action will have the desired effect, and that this actual participation by this Government in the conflict will be avoided.

The underwriters point out, however, that even should the United States actually become embroiled in the war against Germany, there would be no greater effect on war risk insurance conditions than the attack on the Lusitania produced. They point out that Germany has no more armed cruisers at large, her navy is practically "hotted up," and therefore American shipments, whether in American or British vessels, would be exposed to no greater danger of destruction than they are under the present conditions.

Present War Risk Rates.

The following table gives the respective ranges of war risk insurance rates prevailing in the local markets yesterday on shipments in vessels of various nationalities to all ports. The low range will show the rates at which many of the underwriters are taking business, and the high ranges represent the figures at which some who are operating on a basis of pronounced conservatism will issue policies. While all are enforcing their protective clauses on shipments to European ports and some are willing under special conditions to grant concessions, the general tendency of rates for the immediate future is distinctly upward. The rates presented herewith cover only general cargoes and exclude full cargoes of flour, grain, coal, cotton, linens, sugar, rubber, copper and naval stores, while shipments to Hol-

REAL ESTATE

Victor Pelletier sold to Joseph Blanchard lot No. 2630-159, Parish of St. Laurent, with buildings fronting on Chateaubriand avenue, for \$8,800.

Mrs. John Mitchell sold to Miss Alice Margaret Mitchell part of lot No. 42-15 and part of lot No. 43-16, St. Lawrence Ward, with buildings fronting on Mance street, measuring 21 x 92 feet, for \$8,000.

Robert Neville, Jr., sold to Mrs. Stanley Campbell Jackson part of lot No. 169-769, Parish of Montreal, having a superficial area of 2,200 square feet, with dwelling fronting on Hampton avenue, for \$9,500.

Francis Maurice Marcotte sold to Mrs. J. St. A. Wilson lot No. 489-297, Parish of St. Laurent, with buildings Nos. 3303 and 3305 St. Hubert street, measuring 25 x 87 feet, for \$18,500.

Solomon Goldstein sold to Hyman Bogoslavsk and others the north-east part of lots 8-4, 9-5, 10-5 and 10-10, St. Lawrence Ward, with buildings Nos. 118, 120 and 122 Bag Street, measuring 19 x 75 feet, for \$8,000.

Joseph Wilfred Sauve sold to Georges A. Chevalier lots Nos. 8-47-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8-46, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Cote St. Louis, with buildings fronting on Beaubien street, measuring 119 feet by the entire depth of the lot for \$58,500.

Mrs. J. B. Simard sold to Henri Hogue parts of lots Nos. 15-66, 15-67, 15-68, 15-69, 12-194, 12-195, 12-196, 12-197, 12-198, 12-199 and 12-200, St. Jean Baptiste ward, with buildings fronting on Rachel street east, measuring 80 x 110 feet, for \$12,000.

P. Simard sold to Henri Hogue part of lots Nos. 12-195 to 200 and part of lot No. 12-194, St. Jean Baptiste Ward, fronting on Chateaubriand avenue, measuring 110 x 22 feet each; also lots Nos. 15-70, 71, 15-104-7 and 71, fronting on Berri street, each lot measuring 10 x 80 feet, for \$8,000.

BAD FIRE AT ST. THOMAS.

St. Thomas, May 12.—A disastrous fire broke out in the store of the Canadian Small Wares, Limited, which totally destroyed the stock and gutted the building Tuesday afternoon. The fire spread to the temporary armories of the 25th Regiment, which were located on the second and third floors of the building, doing much damage to the new uniforms which had just been received from Ottawa. The clothing stock of R. H. and J. Dowler in the adjoining store was also badly damaged by smoke and water. The loss suffered by the Canadian Small Wares Company is about \$20,000, covered by insurance. The loss to R. H. and J. Dowler is \$1,000, also covered by insurance.

SALE OF ST. CATHERINE ST. CORNER BROUGHT \$160,000

A property at the southwest corner of St. Catherine and St. George streets has just been sold by Dr. T. R. Wilson, of 285 Esplanade Avenue, to Mr. S. Goldstein, of 1240 Cadieux street, for \$160,000. It was purchased by Dr. Wilson a little more than two years ago for \$150,000.

The lot is described as 472 of St. Lawrence ward, fronting on St. Catherine street, at the southwest corner of St. George street, and measuring 50 x 81 feet. The sale was put through by the People's Realty Exchange Co. The street numbers represented are 174 to 180 St. Catherine, and 358 to 364 St. George, and the present buildings are occupied for business purposes, including a milliner and a ladies' tailor on St. Catherine street, and a tobacconist and a ladies' tailor on St. George street.

The property lies in front of and is separated by a lane from the parcel of land about 26,000 square feet in extent, acquired for the purpose of erecting a burlesque theatre, by interests in which Mr. F. W. Starr, of Toronto, is the prime mover. While it has been acquired by Mr. Goldstein for investment purposes, there is a possibility that later it will be linked up with the theatre proposition.

land, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Portugal, Greece and Italy are all subject to the neutrality clauses:

	English, French, American, neutrals, British.
England and Scotland	1 1/2-2 1/2
West coast	1 1/2-2 1/2
London	1 1/2-2 1/2
Ireland	1 1/2-2 1/2
Europe, between Havre and Gibraltar	1 1/2-2 1/2
Gibraltar	1 1/2-2 1/2
England and Scotland (east coast), except London (east coast)	1 1/2-2 1/2
Mediterranean, not cast	1 1/2-2 1/2
Sicily	1 1/2-2 1/2
Norway, not south	1 1/2-2 1/2
Sweden	1 1/2-2 1/2
Denmark	1 1/2-2 1/2
Sweden, not beyond	1 1/2-2 1/2
Malmö	1 1/2-2 1/2
Outward	1 1/2-2 1/2
Inward	1 1/2-2 1/2
Adriatic	1 1/2-2 1/2
Greece	1 1/2-2 1/2
Denmark, Norway and Sweden, not beyond	1 1/2-2 1/2
Outward	1 1/2-2 1/2
Inward	1 1/2-2 1/2
Stockholm	1 1/2-2 1/2
Holland	1 1/2-2 1/2
South Africa direct	1 1/2-2 1/2
China, Japan, Java	1 1/2-2 1/2
Manila, India, Australia and New Zealand	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Suez or Cape of Good Hope	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Panama Canal	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Pacific Coast	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via United Kingdom	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Rotterdam	1 1/2-2 1/2
West Indies and Caribbean seaports	1 1/2-2 1/2
American ports	1 1/2-2 1/2
East Coast Central	1 1/2-2 1/2
American ports	1 1/2-2 1/2
Brazil	1 1/2-2 1/2
River Plate	1 1/2-2 1/2
Inward	1 1/2-2 1/2
Outward	1 1/2-2 1/2
West coast S. America	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Magellan	1 1/2-2 1/2
Via Panama Canal	1 1/2-2 1/2

SOLD \$6,000,000 INSURANCE TO LUSITANIA PASSENGERS

New York, May 12.—Just before the Lusitania sailed, agents of several large life insurance companies solicited business from several wealthy passengers and to-day could estimate that policies aggregating \$6,000,000 were taken out as the result.

A few days before the sailing, it is learned, Mr. Alfred G. Vanderbilt took out an accident policy for \$100,000. Insurance men say there will be no difficulty in adjustment of claims, as identification will be established by process of elimination.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society's payments will be about \$200,000. The New York Life Insurance Co. expects to pay only five claims aggregating \$72,000.

The Travelers' Insurance Co. of Hartford will issue no more policies involving risk of an ocean voyage while war continues. The company lost \$400,000 as a result of the Lusitania disaster. Alfred G. Vanderbilt carried a \$50,000 accident policy in the Travelers' Insurance Co., but as far as can be learned, did not carry any life insurance. His accident policy was of an old form and did not cover death through an "act of war."

The Travelers', which since the beginning of the war has avoided accident policies involving the hazard of an ocean voyage, has suffered accident losses through the sinking of the Lusitania, including the double indemnity features of about \$375,000 and the straight life losses were about \$25,000.

MANAGER OF ROYAL INSURANCE SAVED WHEN LUSITANIA SANK.

Among the passengers of the Lusitania who were saved from the disaster was Mr. George H. Turton, manager for Australasia for the Royal Insurance Company of Liverpool. He had been on a short vacation trip, returning home via New York, where he spent about a week before sailing on the Lusitania. Yesterday the officers of the Royal received a brief cable from him announcing that he had been saved.

MR. DAVIS IN NEW POSITION.

Mr. W. H. Davis, late secretary of the Federal Life, has been appointed permanent auditor of the City of Hamilton.

REAL ESTATE AND TRUST COMPANIES

Quotations for to-day on the Montreal Real Estate Exchange, Inc., were as follows:

	BID	ASKED
Aberdeen Estates	125	
Beaudin Lee	197	
Bellevue Land Co.	70	75
Blumery Inv.	97	104
Caledonian Land Co.	15	
Can. Cons. Lands Ltd.	3	5
Cartier Realty	100	107
Central Park Lachine	100	107
City Central Real Estate (Com.)	8	
City Estate Ltd.	120	
Corporation Estates	55	
Cote St. Luc & R. Inv.	50	52
C. C. Cottrell, 7% (Pld.)	17	
Credit National	119	
Crystal Spring Land Co.	58	
Daoust Realty Co. Ltd.	45	50
Denis Land Co. Ltd.	75	90
Dorval Land Co.	15	20
Drummond Realities Ltd.	90	100
Eastmount Land Co.	90	97
Fort Realty Co. Ltd.	24	
Greater Montreal Land Inv. (Com.)	174	180
Greater Montreal Land Co. (Pld.)	100	118
Highland Factory Sites Ltd.	25	38
Improved Realities Ltd. (Pld.)	50	60
Improved Realities Ltd. (Com.)	15	
K. & R. Realty Co.	78	100
Kennedy Realty Co.	55	70
La Co. D'Immoblie Union Ltd.	40	73
La Co. Immobiliere du Canada	91	94
La Co. Im. Ouest de N-D de Grace	90	90
La Co. Industrielle d'Immoblie	90	98
La Co. Nationale de l'Est	90	98
Lachine Land Co.	125	
Land of Montreal	97	
La Salle Realty	100	
La Societe Blvd. Pie IX	64	
Lauzon Dry Dock Land Limited	80	
Longueuil Realty Co.	100	
L'Union de l'Est	40	
Model City Annex	10	
Montmartre Realty Co.	10	
Montreal Deb. Corp. (Pld.)	44	
Montreal Deb. Corp. (Com.)	44	
Montreal Edmond Western Land	80	
Montreal Extension Land Co. Ltd.	92	
Montreal Factory Land	55	66
Montreal Lachine Land Syn. Co.	95	101
Montreal Land & Imp. Co. Ltd.	94	
Montreal South Land Co. (Pld.)	40	58
Montreal South Land Co. (Com.)	10	18
Montreal Welland Land Co. (Pld.)	58	
Montreal Welland Land Co. (Com.)	10	15
Montreal Western Land Co.	75	
Montreal Western Land Co.	85	
Mountain Sights Limited	76	84
Mutual Bond & Realities Corp.	50	54
Nesbitt Heights	125	130
North Montreal Centre Limited	150	155
Notre Dame de Grace Realty	100	109
Orchard Land Co.	100	124
Ottawa South Property Co.	148	
Pointe Claire Co.	100	124
Quebec Land Co.	175	178
Rivera Estates	70	
Riverview Land Co.	65	
Rockfield Land Co.	100	113
Rosehill Park Realities Co.	27	30
St. Andrews Land	71	9
St. Catherine Road Co.	50	
Security Land Co. Reg.	75	79
St. Denis Realities	90	
St. Lawrence Blvd. Land of Canada	115	
St. Lawrence Heights Limited	55	
St. Lawrence Inv. & Trust Co.	75	
St. Regis Park	45	47
Southern Counties Realities Co.	95	102
South Shore Realty Co.	34	
St. Paul Land Co.	650	680
Summit Realities Co.	50	55
Transportation Bldg. (Pld.)	80	86