Death Rate.

In the calculation of the death rate this year, as in previous years, the mean number of policies in force, and the number of policies terminated by death during the year have been admitted as approximations to the mean number of lives exposed to risk, and the number of deaths during the year respectively. It is believed that the results arrived at represent the actual mortality among insured lives in Canada as accurately as can be gathered from the returns of the companies.

	1901.		1901.	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	Number of lives exposed to risk.	Number of deaths.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.	Death rate.
Active companies	439,396	4,927	11·213	11·226	10·733	10·549	10·907	10·095	11·166	10 327	10 176	10·676
Assessment companies	104,286	867	8·314	7·985	7·352	7·818	7·507	6·798	8·654	8·101	9·407	8·946
Retired companies	3,527	143	40·544	40·182	35·733	33·560	26·747	32·969	30·235	26·449	22·574	26·512
Total	547,209	5,937	10·850	10·770	10·197	10·113	10·205	9·261	11·092	10·340	10 364	10·860

The total amount paid to policyholders during 1901 was as follows :—

Death claims (including bonus additions)	$5,430,872 30
Matured endowment (including bonus additions)	1,829,219 95
Annuitants	161,811 51
Paid for surrendered policies	815,768 98
Dividends to policyholders	755,452 72
Total	$8,993,125 46

Hence, for every $100 premiums received there has been paid to policyholders $52.49, leaving $47.51 to be carried to reserve, expense and profits.

Including the business done outside of Canada by the Canadian companies, the following table shows the total premium income and payments to policyholders of all companies, other than assessment companies, doing life insurance business in Canada for the last twenty-three years, and also the ratio of payments to policyholders to premiums received :

Year.	Premium income.	Payments to Policyholders.	Rate of Payments to Policyholders per cent. of Premiums.
	$	$	
1879	2,606,756	1,301,480	49 93
1880	2,691,128	1,389,986	51·65
1881	3,094,689	1,879.240	60·72
1882	3,544,603	1,946,444	54·91
1883	3,861,179	2,201,152	57·01
1884	4,195,726	2,073,395	49·42
1885	4,684,409	2,544,101	54·31
1886	5,298,596	2,851,981	53 83
1887	6,105,474	3,235,205	52·99
1888	6,655,762	3,440,729	51·70
1889	8,336,167	3,942,590	47·30
1890	8,131,852	4,445,668	54·67
1891	8,667,609	4,911,485	56·66
1892	9,347,131	5,452,151	58 33
1893	9,952,833	5,133,284	51.58
1894	10,345,919	5,516,929	53·32
1895	10,887,501	5,862,447	53·85
1896	11,469,040	6,506,096	56·73
1897	12,197,626	7,076,962	58 02
1898	13,190,742	6,7-2,006	51·41
1899	14,490,102	7,680,959	53·01
1900	16,633,142	9,232,061	55·50
1901	17,130,456	8,993,125	52 49
Total	193,518,442	104,399,476	53·95

Collecting the results for twenty-three years, 1879 to 1901, we find that the total payments to policyholders amount to 53.95 per cent. of the premium income during the said period.

The subjoined table shows the total premium income and payments to policyholders, during the last twenty-three years, of the life insurance companies which have ceased to do new business in Canada, and also the ratio of payments to policyholders to premiums received :

Year.	Premium income.	Payments to Policyholders.	Rate of Payments to Policyholders per cent. of Premiums.
	$	$	
1879	490,688	396,053	80·71
1880	447,910	317,531	70·89
1881	441,393	489,370	110·87
1882	412,436	376,811	91·36
1883	371,570	450,678	121·29
1884	343,179	454,906	132·56
1885	321,566	395,851	123 10
1886	278,108	342,049	122·99
1887	262,445	423,747	161·46
1888	237,559	395,466	166·47
1889	216,730	337,829	155·88
1890	191,101	363,519	190·22
1891	181,905	319,246	175·51
1892	175,340	329,963	188·18
1893	163,723	368,887	25·31
1894	178,467	435,862	244·23
1895	163,366	367,132	224·73
1896	150,395	377,949	251·30
1897	174,155	449,425	258·06
1898	163,918	358,968	219·00
1899	152,534	376,018	246·51
1900	145,756	391,576	268·65
1901	132,201	476,885	360·73
Total	5,796,445	8,995,721	155·19

Collecting the results for twenty-three years, 1879 to 1901, it will be seen that the total payments to policyholders made by said retired companies exceeds by 55.19 per cent. the total premium income during the same period.