

subsequently re-elected to that position, in the course of an interesting survey of the Canadian situation, emphasised a point which needs to be well borne in mind at the present time, viz.:—that prosperity caused by the expenditure of money borrowed from abroad is not always on a sound basis, and it is only to the extent that this money is being expended in enterprises that are stable and profitable that the country can hope to bear the heavy interest charge that is being laid upon it. While, in Mr. Coulson's opinion, fundamental conditions are satisfactory, the necessity for caution is imperative.

Mr. H. B. Henwood is manager of the important branch of this Bank in St. James street, Montreal.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The annual report of the New York Life Insurance Company for the year 1912 shows that, in the matter of new business, the company is still beating against the barriers which in the State of New York, limit the new business of life companies. The amended law of 1910 made this limit an elastic one, to be determined by the amount of business done in previous years and the economy with which it was done. Under this rule the New York Life pushed up its limit from 150 millions in 1909 to nearly 199 millions in 1912, and wrote it all. During October, November and December, 1912, it was obliged to send out policies deliverable in 1913. Its limit in 1913 will be about 222 millions.

The figures of the company's balance sheet make an impressive exhibit. It is only necessary to recite the chief items to indicate clearly the vast scale of the operations carried on by the great organization of which President Darwin P. Kingsley is the head. New insurances for the year were \$108,381,400; insurance in force, end of year, \$2,169,798,993; income for the year, \$119,243,366; assets end of year (market values), \$719,657,050; payments to policyholders during the year, \$57,922,557; reserves to cover legal liabilities, \$611,407,979; reserves for dividends and contingencies, \$108,

249,071. The dividends declared, payable in 1913, are \$15,364,714, as compared with \$11,690,143 for 1912. The number of death-losses paid in 1912 was about nine thousand, the total amount being \$25,788,714; the amount paid living policyholders in matured endowments, annuities, dividends and surrender values was \$32,133,843.

A considerable development in the earning power of assets—amounting in 1912 alone to nine one hundredths of one per cent.—is accompanied by strict economy in expenditure. Only 91 p.c. of the amount allowed by the New York law to be expended on new business was actually spent, and only 63 per cent. of the amount allowed by the law to be spent for all purposes. The figures show that a great insurance business can be handled economically.

MUTUAL FIRE COMPANIES OF QUEBEC.

Statistics regarding the 1911 operations of the insurance companies transacting business under the aegis of the Province of Quebec have only lately been issued. The mutual and cash mutual fire companies, whose operations are summarised in the statistical table below, differ very widely, as has previously been pointed out, in character. There are companies like the Missisquoi and Rouville and the Stanstead and Sherbrooke which have maintained a steady course for nearly eighty years and have large holdings of high class securities among their assets. The figures show that at December 31, 1911, the Missisquoi and Rouville held high class investments of a market value of \$108,821, and the Stanstead and Sherbrooke similar high class securities of a market value of \$148,450. For the most part, the purely mutual companies are content to look for reserves to unassessed notes. At December 31, 1911, of their total assets of \$1,060,430 (excluding the two companies which have been already mentioned), \$890,191 is represented by unassessed notes. The tangible assets of some \$161,000 are offset by liabilities amounting to \$115,504.

MUTUAL AND CASH MUTUAL FIRE COMPANIES OF QUEBEC AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1911

(Compiled by The Chronicle.)

Company	Deposit Notes unassessed	Total Assets (including deposit notes)	Liabilities	Income 1911	Expenditure 1911	Amount of Policies in Force	Amount issued during Year	Losses for Year
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Beauharnois (Huntingdon)	55,219	68,095	*	9,686	8,457	4,274,510	1,485,515	4,066
Beurreries et Fromageries (St. Remi)	93,722	96,217	10,954	9,589	19,401	1,154,935	133,665	14,603
Commerce (St. Hyacinthe)	437,138	477,511	7,997	56,206	52,898	4,456,345	1,518,390	30,938
Equitable (Montreal)	92,508	113,915	5,521	39,095	38,840	3,236,418	960,676	119,930
Industries (Quebec)	63,799	93,802	27,736	12,291	15,378	375,400	344,350	7,234
Lotbinière and Megantic (Lyster Station)	9,784	10,913	176	925	867	259,440	13,650	800
Maskinongé (Louiseville)	19,668	19,985	None	637	519	983,397	983,397	7330
Mercantile (St. Hyacinthe)	71,375	91,809	19,698	9,768	11,829	454,475	376,675	8,111
Missisquoi & Rouville (Freilighsburg)	84,999	221,151	27,049	85,323	79,713	9,894,827	4,867,752	54,445 (a)
Pontiac & Ottawa (Papineauville)	24,975	29,389	6,407	28,591	32,074	2,951,725	1,442,700	16,700
Richmond, Drummond & Yamaska (Richmond)	31,003	59,694	37,075	15,676	17,358	1,463,650	318,450	11,196 (b)
Stanstead & Sherbrooke (Sherbrooke)	331,258	575,623	19,863	107,302	94,216	11,193,431	5,428,851	56,784
Totals	1,315,448	1,857,204	162,476	375,089	371,550	40,728,553	17,874,071	225,146

*Not stated. †Includes \$2,785, losses of previous year. ‡Includes \$9,822 net losses of previous years. §Includes \$15 losses of previous year. (a) Includes \$4,269 losses of previous year. (b) Includes \$800 losses of previous years.