



# INSURANCE SOCIETY

"Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait"

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## The Office of "INSURANCE SOCIETY"

IS IN THE  
EXCHANGE BANK CHAMBERS,

No. 102 St. FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET, MONTREAL.

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### The Compliments of the Season.

Companies are always wanting reliable agents.

Agents are ever wishing to better their condition.

INSURANCE SOCIETY will always be happy to assist in negotiations—without charge;—if

Companies will communicate with us respecting their wants.

Agents state to us what they want, where they want it, and their qualifications.

We reiterate our requests for advice and counsel respecting proposed compilation of tables from our Fire Record.

1. Is this record worth tabulating?

2. How shall it be compiled?

3. What assistance will you render?

After the work is done, many of you will be very ready to say that a better method could have been adopted, so kindly give us your advice and assistance to obtain the method that shall be of most practical benefit.

If you can favor us with any memoranda of results of one Company's or Agency's business, the promise will be made that such memoranda shall be used only in deducing general results, for the general good, and not published or exhibited against your wishes.

Kindly favor us with proposals or advice without delay, as we hope to be able to get the compilation completed during January, and an early start will be half-way to accomplishment.

The principles of a sound Fire Insurance policy are becoming more and more thoroughly recognized in Halifax, and the feeling among the agents is tending to a more united and harmonious one than ever before.

May the wave roll onward, and may the similar inclination now apparent among underwriters in Montreal "take the tide at its flow," and roll on to unity and prosperity.

A series of reference books has been prepared (as advertised in 3rd page of our cover), with the intention of giving

supplementary information to that supplied by the insurance plans.

A request is made to each manager or general agent operating in the Province of Ontario, that they will make a practical test with 4 or 5 of these books for places where they have agencies, so that, by May next, they will be in a position to say, from *practical experience*, whether this method of keeping record of risks be worthy of adoption in general practice.

If this practical test be not made, the verdict will be as unfavorable as it was in regard to the Plan system seven years ago, and which, in that case, has since been reversed.

These reference books may involve too much labor for the benefits accruing, but a *practical test* is the only way by which a competent opinion can be given, hence this very moderate request.

The long-tried immunity from large conflagrations in England has been rudely changed during the last month— and fires in Whiteley's "Universal Providers' establishment," on 16th November, with estimated damage of \$300,000; in the Alhambra Theatre, on 6th December, say \$750,000; on Wood Street and London Wall, \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000, show that conflagration—hazard still exists in the well-built cities of the Old World; and while, doubtless, furnishing cogent reasons to the public to "keep well-insured wherever you be," will also, (with the Kingston conflagration in Jamaica, say \$15,000,000, as additional stimulus) impress Fire Underwriters with the necessity of keeping in order efficient and practical records and safeguards against too large accumulation of liabilities.

We cannot help wondering how long London will bear with "hand engines," "one-inch nozzles" and "waiting for the turncock to give water." There must be a sweeping revolution some day; it is not a wise thing to give a fire an "average" start of half-an-hour.

The rapid accumulation of money at compound interest, is exemplified by the fact that if Christopher Columbus had put the cost of the outfit for his first voyage to America out at compound interest, at the rate of six per cent. per annum. the proceeds would now be more than the entire money value of the American continent—including the possessions of those living on it.

Estimating his outfit at the small sum of \$5,000 in 1492—this would have amounted to \$33,195,594,720,000 now, Taking the population of America at 85,000,000, this would give to each man, woman or child, \$390,000 or, at 6 per cent., an annual income of \$23,400 to each.