

The Chronicle

Insurance & Finance.

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THE CHRONICLE'S TWENTY-FIRST YEAR.

This issue closes the twenty-first year of THE CHRONICLE; next week will mark its twenty-second birthday. A retrospective glance over "the days that are no more" inspires only feelings of gratitude for innumerable blessings of Providence, and thankfulness to all whose support, help, sympathy, encouragement have enabled us to make THE CHRONICLE the influence it now is in support of sound principles and systems of insurance, of finance, and of government. Our policy has been to "hew close to the line, let the chips fall where they may"—the line of prudence; of actuarial principles; of caution; of strictest honour, and of fairness to all interests associated with this journal. Infallible we have never claimed to be; indeed, the isolation such an attribute would involve would be painful to any rightly constituted person. But freedom from offensive personalities, from low motives, from narrow prejudices, from any intention to injure, annoy or wrong those from whose views we dissent, is a claim THE CHRONICLE does make with justifiable confidence.

This opportunity is taken of expressing appreciation of the regularity with which this office is provided with the largest number of insurance and financial publica-

tions sent to any journal in Canada. Our other contemporaries also send a liberal supply regularly, for which attention they are thanked and have our best wishes.

Those who have favoured us in the past year with interesting letters and valuable information may rest assured of such courtesies being fully appreciated.

The life insurance business of 1901 is likely to have a gratifying record. Several companies are sanguine of closing 1901 with a larger volume of new and good risks than ever written by them in one year. Fire insurance has not been so profitable as was hoped. Although rates have been advanced they have not kept pace with the enlargement of losses, hence the profits, if any, will be very scanty. The premium income of fire companies has been much increased, but sufficient time has not yet elapsed in order to reap the benefit of the increase.

No year ever closed with business generally so prosperous as it is to-day throughout the Dominion. 1901 is Canada's Banner year. May it be outdone by its successor, which we earnestly hope will prove to be for all in THE CHRONICLE circle

A Happy and Prosperous New Year!