FEDERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

That 1911 was the company's most successful year is the cheery announcement made by the Federal Life Assurance Company, of Hamilton, the leading figures of whose annual statement appear on another page. The Federal Life has successfully accomplished during 1911 the task of securing a considerably larger, volume of new business than in previous years, while retaining the expense ratio at its former low level, an evidence this of efficient management, which will appeal strongly to both present and prospective policyholders. The new assurances issued during 1911 totalled $4,655,104, the increase over 1910 being the considerable amount of $898,039. This increase in new business was accompanied by a substantial advance in the total assurances at risk, these going up by $1,577,212 to $23,887,141. Cash income from premiums, interest, rents, etc., also showed the solid advance of $83,483, the income going well over the million mark to $1,034,437. In regard to mortality, the company's experience was a favorable one, a considerable reduction from the mortality of 1910 being experienced. The total payments to policyholders during last year were $317,837, of which cash dividends absorbed $21,553. In this connection it is interesting to note that the income received from investments, $213,609 exceeded the amount paid for death claims during the year by $62,712. As a result of the year's business, the assets are increased by $450,526, and totalled as at December 31 last, $4,446,969. This gives a surplus over liabilities of $329,974, an increase over 1910 of $54,386, while had the company taken advantage of the special deduction from reserve liability allowed by the Dominion Insurance Act, the surplus would be $410,556.

The whole showing is one which must be gratifying to Mr. David Dexter, the President of the Federal Life, and his staff, of whom Mr. C. L. Sweeney, of 180 St. James Street, Montreal, is the provincial manager for Quebec. We subjoin comparative figures showing the progress of the company during the last three years:—

	1909.	1910.	1911.
New Business. . .	$3,663,896	$3,720,436	$4,655,104
Insurance in force	21,049,322	22,309,929	23,887,141
Assets.	3,643,949	3,996,443	4,446,969
Liabilities. . . .	3,351,254	3,720,855	4,116,995
Income	893,002	950,953	1,034,437

A VOICE FROM THE TOMBS.

We have sometimes heard of a life insurance company fighting a man after he was dead, and we have occasionally heard of a man firing some hot shot at a life insurance company after the company was dead. But the first story we have heard of a man fighting a life insurance company after he was dead has just come to hand from Austria.

Dispatches from Vienna to the London financial newspapers quote from a Czech paper an extraordinary will, left by Herr Rutte, chief controller of the life insurance company, "Praha." He desires, according to this account, that in the notices of his death the name of the "Praha" shall not be mentioned, as it is in very bad hands, and if it continues being managed in the same way, ruin is inevitable. He also protests against the attendance of the directors, employees, or servants at his funeral.

We know nothing of the events of the case, but the gentlemen now in control of the company evidently did not enjoy the esteem, confidence and affection of the late chief controller.

Insurance: Fire, Life and Miscellaneous.

With the compliments of Mr. A. J. Hughes, managing director of the China Mutual Life Insurance Company, Ltd., comes a 1912 calendar. The colour printing is excellent; the Chinese text, as disclosed by a translation, unexceptionable.

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The Guardian Accident & Guarantee Company, of Montreal, has been licensed to transact in Canada the business of guarantee, burglary and plate-glass insurance, in addition to accident insurance and sickness insurance, for which it is already licensed.

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The Union Life of Toronto has abolished the titles of general supervisor of Nova Scotia, supervisor of the Great Gulf division and supervisor of the Atlantic division. A. F. Gibbs will be known henceforth as supervisor of Nova Scotia, and G. H. Meyers as general superintendent of the Great Gulf division.

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Frederico Cartallesso, an Italian, was arrested at Englehart on suspicion of firing another Italian's store at Elk Lake, and spent his time in jail writing incriminating letters to his relatives. As a result he has ten years in Kingston penitentiary before him. "Black Hand" seems to be the explanation of the affair.

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We have received from Mr. W. B. Campbell, of Office and Field, Toronto, a copy of "Life Insurance and How to Write It," by J. M. Langstaff, C.A., F.I.A., F.A.S. As a handbook of practical advice to field men, present and prospective, it appears to be thoroughly sound.

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An addition will be made to the Hilliard building, 55 John street, New York, for the exclusive use of the Commercial Union Assurance Company. The space the Commercial Union occupies at present at the north-east corner of William and Pine streets has been taken over by Harris, Forbes & Co.

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A New Orleans statistician says that the amount of life insurance in the United States has grown in the past half century just one hundredfold, from $163,703,455 to $16,404,261,042. The amount of industrial insurance in the period since 1876 has grown from $443,072 to $3,177,047,874, or 7,376 fold, and the number of policies from 4,816 to 23,034,463, or 4,957 fold.

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One of the interesting recent developments in insurance in the old country is in the making of provision for the education of children. We notice a recent announcement, in the London Times, by the Phœnix Assurance Company, which states inter alia:

The Company issues Policies securing
A PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION
and
A UNIVERSITY CAREER
AT A MODERATE COST.
The Premiums cease at the Parent's death
or are returnable on death of the Child.
Write for leaflet: "EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS."

A policy of this kind has obviously a wide field of usefulness.